PARTI QUEBECOIS VICTORY FORCES MONTREAL JEWRY TO AWAKEN TO REALITIES

By TOBA KORENBLUM

The election of a Parti Quebecois government has reawakened the Montreal Jewish community, forcing a reassessment of priorities and leadership, and generating a period of intense creativity.

That is the evaluation of McGill law professor Irwin Cotler, who recently told an overflow audience at a community forum in Montreal that the Jewish leadership in Quebec must now change its profile to reflect the realities of the future.

"The Jewish community leadership," he elaborated in an interview, "is out of joint with its non-Jewish counterparts. And to engage with these counterparts (particularly government), it needs a greater representation of its minority constituents — Sephardim, women and the poor."

Reflecting on the positive side effect of the election, Cotler notes the community has been "in continual caucus", probing its future agenda and seeking to involve academics in the formulation of policy.

"The reality in Quebec," he says, "is that francization is irreversible. This the Jews must understand. If they don't realize it, they will live in abstraction."

Cotler, chairman of the Commission on Economic Coercion and Discrimination, calls for internal "democratization" of the organizational structure. The community in the past, he argues, has been more reactive than responsive, better at crisis-management than initiating change. "Jews have passed from being an immigrant community to a political community," he says, and the directives and mentality have to alter accordingly.

The key to a new posture is increasing public involvement in communal affairs. The poor, in effect, have been disenfranchised, removed from the seat of power, says Cotler. Women, particularly the young and professional, have been bypassed, though, he adds: "it's not a deliberate exclusion, or for sexist reasons, but because of a sense of unawareness."

And he points to the "two solitudes" within Quebec Jewry: the Sephardim and the Ashkenazim, whose development has been more of a parallel than a joint venture.

With the election, that approach has altered somewhat, with the involvement of Sephardim in representations to the French community. "We have to be careful that we don't develop tokenism or an 'agency' relationship with the Sephardim."

He admits the people, to an extent, get the leadership they deserve and are a party to the selection process, but active outreach programs are essential to attract younger, activist, professionals and academics.

Assessing the mood of the province's Jewry, in the wake of the election, Cotler remarks: "Jews are most creative in times of apparent or real adversity. The thinking has become more serious, more sensitive and more creative than at any other time."

Ralph Lallouz, who says with a small laugh that he is that "token Sephardi", agrees with the Cotler assessment. A past vice-chairman of Canadian Jewish Congress, Eastern Region, he says "the Jewish leadership of Quebec has to change drastically, mostly because of the PQ. Quebec will never be the same...a nationalist sentiment does not reverse itself."

Quebec Jewry, he says, has the tremendous opportunity to use its francophones as public relations with the government, but so far they have not made full use of that possibility.

The Ashkenazim, he charges, have not sincerely tried to involve Sephardim at the leadership level, although he puts some of the blame on his own community. Partly at fault, he adds, are professionals who have not indicated an interest in integrating the "two solitudes", and who are given a "vested right" by their agencies and organizations to run the community.

Jean-Claude Lasry, an officer of the Allied Jewish Community Services, takes an opposing tack. Contrary to Lallouz, the Sephardi feels the community has been responsive to his constituency.

On the question of Sephardi involvement as government liaison, he remarks: "The role of the francophone Jew as intermediary is a totally absurd approach which would set apart the Jewish community...as if it needs brokers to get by."

Cont'd on Page 3

Mel Shipman

The Canadian Jewish news

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Contradictions on the boycott

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

OTTAWA –

Prime Minister Trudeau's press secretary, Jean Charpentier, admitted this week that "there is an obvious contradiction" between statements delivered by the premier and Finance Minister Donald Macdonald on the subject of the Arab boycott.

Saying the matter had been brought to Trudeau's attention, Charpentier said the confusion might very well be dispelled during his forthcoming press conference in Toronto.

At his weekly press conference last Thursday in Ottawa, a reporter asked the prime minister whether he would "reconsider the fact that there's no legislation in Canada prohibiting complicity with any boycott."

Trudeau replied: "We made our statement in Parliament several months ago. It did not involve legislation . . . This is as far as we said we would go and that is as far as we're going."

The prime minister was also asked if Ottawa had any intention of preventing banks from signing letters of credit which conformed to boycott regulations. Trudeau, noting that government action would run counter to the free market system, said Canada would not interfere with the operations of banks or businesses. "It's not Liberal policy to do so . . ." he added.

The following day, MP David Orlikow (NDP–Winnipeg North), asked Macdonald in the House of Commons whether he would consider including a clause in the Bank Act to prevent banks from continuing their current practice of giving firms letters of credit certifying that the companies are complying with the boycott.

Macdonald said Canada might pass a law outlawing such complicity, thereby creating confusion as to which statement — his or the prime minister's — represented government intentions.

Macdonald's press spokesman, Maurice Cutler, was asked for his opinion of the conflict. "There may appear to be a contradiction, but it's not a static situation." Cutler said the finance ministry was examining the status of the Arab boycott with a view to determining what government policy would be.

Commenting on the confusion, Irwin Cotler, chairman of the Commission on Economic Coercion and Discrimination, said he does not regard Trudeau's remarks on the boycott as the last word on the controversial subject.

"One has to appreciate statements in their context," said the McGill law professor. "It wasn't a comprehensive or final statement on the boycott."

Cotler, whose citizens' group recently urged Ottawa to pass legislation prohibiting Canadian companies from complying with the terms of the boycott, said from Montreal that he views Finance Minister Macdonald's comments as "exemplary of the measures that might be taken" by the federal government.

He said he did not believe that Trudeau's remarks meant that Ottawa had precluded legislation. Neither were they indicative of the fact that the government would not move beyond the anti-boycott guidelines announced by External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson last October, he added.

The McGill academic suggested that the reverse might even be true. Citing Macdonald's observations, Cotler said Ottawa might be prepared to enact amendments to existing government legislation.

Cont'd on Page 18

North York board may obtain legal view on integration

By TOBA KORENBLUM

TORONTO —

A North York Board of Education subcommittee has recommended that legal opinion be sought to proceed with a pilot project integrating Associated Hebrew Schools into the public system — bypassing the Ministry of Education.

The committee of five trustees considered the legal challenge, among several alternatives still being reviewed, as a means of resolving the impasse between the board and ministry over the optionality of religious studies.

Should a legal solution to the deadlock be adopted, the board, predicted one trustee, could find itself in a constitutional feud with the Ministry of Education and a possible Supreme Court hearing. Toronto lawyer J.J. Robinette is one candidate likely to be approached to examine the North York Board's legal footing in a solo pursuit of the experimental plan.

Mel Shipman, the board chairman, told the trustee subcommittee meeting last week that "the legality question is far from self-evident." He did point out, however, that the board's solicitor thought a case could be established for introducing the plan as originally conceived.

The crux of the dispute lies in interpretation of Education Act regulations. The ministry argues that public funds could not support any school where religious courses are compulsory. The board's logic, which could be tested in court, is that optionality within the entire system rather than each individual school could be a proper interpretation.

In discussing other alternatives, both Shipman and Trustee George McCleary were convinced the government will not yield ground. Education Minister Thomas Wells, said McCleary, "is going to be less co-operative now. He really got his knuckles rapped. The problem is with the cabinet." The integration scheme is a politically explosive one, he added.

Associated Hebrew Schools administrator Arthur Tannenbaum reiterated his school's rejection of government conditions for the merger. Similarly, Bialik Board Chairman Sydney Wax, who has remained on the sidelines throughout negotiations, told trustees, informally, his school could not live with the present ministry guidelines.

And United Synagogue Day School principal, Dr. Aaron Nussbaum, concurred.

Shipman suspected it would not be easy to sell his board with the legal option because of "nervousness in flying in the face of the provincial government."

Trustee Sybil Darnell, one of three new subcommittee members grappling with the complex history of the integration question, did not favor a legal embroilment. "It's a dreadful thing to do," she said, "and would divide the community very seriously."

Considering yet a third option, Shipman apparently favored a pilot project under North York's jurisdiction, offering options in an already existing public school. The benefit, he said, would be that a practical working model in operation may convince the government to be more flexible toward an experimental plan in a Jewish day school.

Board of Jewish Education Executive Director Rabbi Irwin Witty rejected the idea. Speaking in an unofficial capacity, he said his schools likely would view a North York project as "competing and problematic."

Charles McCaffray, North York's director of education, sided with Rabbi Witty, arguing that the public school option would "over a period of time, destroy the Jewish tradition."

The committee has not yet ruled out negotiations with the government and voted to prepare background material — illustrating parallel plans in other provinces — for a possible meeting. But most seasoned trustees and school negotiators were pessimistic, as McCleary wryly noted: "We (North York and Associated) were married and the minister (Wells) divorced us."

As early as Dec. 4, 1974, the North York Board of Education, after undertaking a feasibility study, supported the principle of merger. After 2½ years of negotiation, the plan broke down when the ministry, under public pressure, indicated religious and Hebraic studies must be optional within the school and not within the system.

The plan would have involved 400 students in Associated's grades seven, eight and nine in a two-year project, with the religious studies segment outside the public system's jurisdiction and support.

YAHEL, ISRAEL –

The American movement of Reform Judaism has established its first settlement in Israel, in a new kibbutz in the arid Arava desert valley.

A Torah dedication ceremony marked the birth of the new community, Yahel, from the Hebrew meaning "light" or "radiance". The founding celebration late last year was held in conjunction with the Reform Movement's jubilee conference in Jerusalem.

Situated near the prosperous desert village of Yotvata, in the southern sector of the rift valley along the Jordanian border, Yahel bases its economy on the cultivation of winter vegetables and on raising turkeys.

The Jewish National Fund, responsible for soil reclamation in the area, created an entirely new landscape for the fledgling kibbutz, diverting broad wadi courses to prevent flooding.

Yahel is not an innovation in the southern Arava where six kibbutzim already flourish. The discovery of a subterranean water reservoir will allow other centres to spring up.

Economic boycott could be fought by Quebec charter

By JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL —

The possibility that Quebec's Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, which was adopted in 1975, could provide a means to fight the Arab boycott is being investigated by Irwin Cotler and his citizens' commission.

Sections 12 and 13 of the charter states: "No one may, through discrimination, refuse to make a juridical act concerning goods and services ordinarily offered to the public" and "no one may in a juridical act stipulate a clause involving discrimination. Such a clause is deemed without effect."

Juridical acts are sales and service agreements having legal value.

This interpretation of the Charter was put forth by Dominique Clift, the Montreal Star's Quebec editor, and, according to Cotler, is valid.

Penalization by the Arab League of the Quebec Jewish community for raising funds for Israel could be "illegal" if fund-raising was considered "Zionism," and therefore a "political conviction."

But as the charter states in section 55, its powers are limited to only those matters which come under the legislative authorities of Quebec.

"Invoking the charter in connection with this situation would also raise some crucial constitutional questions on the distribution of powers between federal and provincial authorities," writes Clift, "both in terms of the jurisdictions of federal and provincial human rights legislation and the case of federally, chartered companies with head offices in Quebec."

"What Clift is saying is correct," Cotler told The Canadian Jewish News, "but a complaint, of course, would have to be received first and then it would have to be defined within the jurisdiction of the charter. But we're certainly looking into it, and the human rights legislation of other provinces."

Last summer, the Joint Community Relations Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress recommended that anti-discrimination amendments be introduced into the Ontario Human Rights Commission to check economic blacklisting. An OHRC spokesman last week, said the matter is being considered and a section of the code may contain an anti-boycott clause.

He said that the chairman of the review committee, Dr. Bruce McLeod, is in the last stages of writing a report on the question. The report will probably be presented to the Legislature for consideration by the beginning of next month, the spokesman disclosed.

Quebec human rights legislation has provided for the creation of a Commission des droits de l'homme which is empowered to hear complaints from individuals and groups and to conduct investigations. The commission is also empowered to do research on questions and situations involving the protection of individual rights, Clift notes.

Although a legal case against banking institutions, which according to Cotler regularly process letters of credit containing boycott clauses, would be difficult because they have always been kept closely under federal authority, section 88 of the charter might be applicable.

"If a corporation commits an offence referred to in section 87 (those infractions listed include discrimination), any officer, director, employee or representative of such corporation who prescribed or authorized the committing of the offence, or who consented thereto or acquiesced or participated therein, is deemed to be a party to the offence whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted or found guilty."

Davis says principle must guide M.E. policy

TORONTO [Staff] —

In an address punctuated by frequent applause, Premier William Davis this week told a UJA tribute dinner in his honor that Canada's foreign policy, "insofar as any foreign policy can ever be based on any principles at all, must never be allowed to become so weak or so soft or so vague or self-seeking that it no longer has room for a stand on principle in the Middle East."

The dinner honoring the premier brought 850 people to the Inn on the Park where they heard the Ontario government leader report on his recent nine-day visit to Israel, an experience which, he said, "was for me a tremendous source of perspective and balance."

There was a single reference to the Arab boycott; a reaffirmation of his previous anti-boycott position made before his departure from Israel. "The position of the government of Ontario on the question of discriminatory boycotts is clear; it is a commitment which reflects our belief in a world devoid of economic blackmail and manipulation. It is a commitment of which I am proud."

The premier's reference to the need of a Canadian foreign policy based on moral principles made no mention of the Trudeau government's lack of boycott legislation. But there was little doubt in the minds of his listeners that he was voicing indirect criticism of the Ottawa regime.

The premier recalled the stand of his government on the crime conference and the criticism the government received for getting involved in a matter which the critics claimed was the sole and total jurisdiction of the federal government.

Premier Davis

Continued the premier: "While the records show that we never said no to any crime conference, we merely indicated that certain types of individuals were not welcome within the jurisdiction for which we have responsibility. I asserted then, and I assert now, that there is no jurisdictional division when the issue is common decency, justice, law and order. I submit as well that there is no jurisdictional division when the issue is simply that of freedom.

"Israel stands as a symbol of freedom for Jew and non-Jew alike, and for all those who cherish the values that we in the free world hold dear," Davis declared, and another burst of applause greeted this sentiment.

If freedom has a spiritual home, then it is in Israel, he continued. "If the simple will to live, to survive, to grow, to share, to prosper, to love and understand is meaningful in our world today, it is at least partially because of the survival and the continued resilience of the state of Israel."

As long as anti-Semitism is a reality in nations like the Soviet Union or in various Arab countries, then the immediate fundamental need for Israel to survive cannot be underestimated, said Davis. He contrasted the problems confronting North Americans with the problems facing Israelis.

"While we in North America face the test of managing excess, limiting consumption and streamlining social purpose and goals, our fellow democrats in Israel face the challenge of survival," the premier said.

"Survival in an area where, despite growing and important common cultural, political and religious experiences which transcend the borders that divide Arab and Jewish nations, a liberal and free, democratic Israel lies fundamentally alone."

Davis, in giving his impressions of the visit to Israel with his wife, Kathleen, said he was "overwhelmed" and "unspeakably moved" by what he saw and learned.

"Kathleen and I were deeply touched...by our visit to the Yad Vashem memorial....that memorial is a tribute in concrete and image to a nation that refuses to be choked with the sorrow that would drown others, or crippled by a pain that could destroy others."

Cont'd on Page 18

Rabin meeting with African leader is termed timely diplomatic stroke

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM [JTA] —

Premier Yitzhak Rabin's surprise secret meeting with Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny in Geneva was viewed here as a timely diplomatic stroke that could have ramifications beyond Israel's often stated desire to restore normal relations with Black Africa.

The tone of the joint communique issued by the two leaders and the matters covered in their 3½ hour meeting were cause for optimism even before the premier briefed the cabinet at its weekly session.

They spoke of the need for a political solution of the Middle East conflict through negotiations, of the mutual interests of Israel and the African states and of the need to oppose Communist influence in Africa. Although the meeting was not expected to result in an immediate restoration of diplomatic ties, it could create a better atmosphere in Israel-African relations in a year of crucial diplomatic tests.

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told newsmen that "This was an important political achievement as far as our relations with Africa are concerned." He added that Rabin's trip "was part of an overall effort by Israel to resume the good relations she once had with Africa."

Despite the fact that most Black African nations broke with Israel after the Yom Kippur War and have generally voted with the Arab bloc at the United Nations and other world forums, Israeli diplomats have kept contact with key African leaders, sometimes secretly.

Allon met the foreign minister of Zaire in Geneva last year and conferred with African diplomats at the General Assembly last September. In November, Rabin had extensive talks with Senegal's President Leopold Senghor at the Socialist International Conference in Geneva.

A significant factor in Rabin's meeting with Houphouet-Boigny is that the latter has met recently with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization, a matter which, according to reports, was frankly discussed between them. It was learned that the Geneva meeting was arranged at Houphouet-Boigny's initiative and at his request was kept secret until it was over.

Entebbe film bomb target

CORDOBA, ARGENTINA [JCNS] —

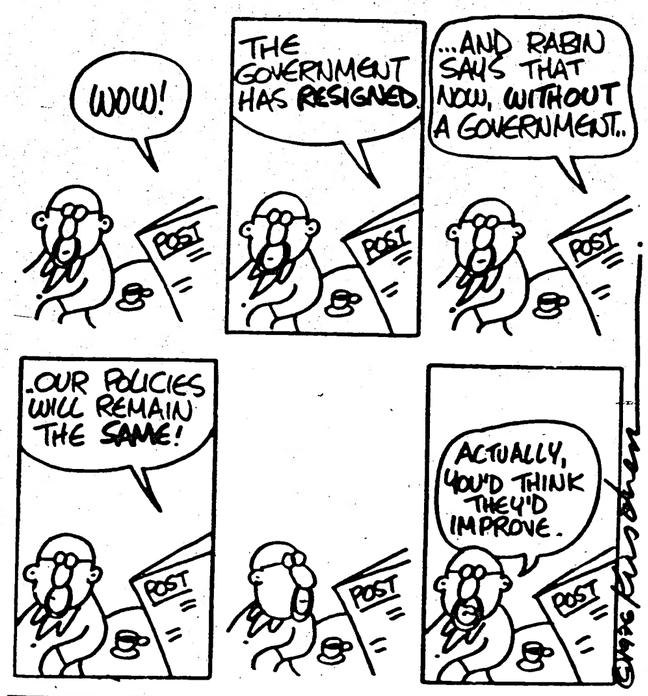
A powerful bomb which exploded in a cinema in this provincial capital practically destroyed the theatre, which was showing, for the fourth week, the film **Raid on Entebbe.** There were no casualties.

At the same time an armed gang held up the local branch of the Banco Israelita and got away with $95,000. The police are investigating a possible link between the two occurrences.

In the heart of the Jewish quarter in Buenos Aires, a bomb exploded at a Jewish school. Some damage was caused but no one was hurt.

World News

Dry Bones



Pressure is on Sadat to harden Israeli stance

By RUTH KAHANE

JERUSALEM — Pressure is increasing on Egyptian President Anwar Sadat to harden his moderate position towards Israel, an Israeli analyst says.

Prof. Jonathon Mendeleev, a Hebrew University political scientist, told a public forum in Jerusalem following the recent Egyptian riots, that Sadat may not be able to maintain his peaceful approach, though he claims his country can't go on unless it heals its war scars.

Pressure from inside Egypt stems from Sadat's precarious position now that he has lost the traditionally strong support of industrial workers.

The late January riots, which occurred in seven major cities on the same day "was something close to revolt" against Egypt's severe inflation, retarded industrial development, unemployment, urban overpopulation, shortage of housing, and a collapse of services.

Sparked by a cutting off of food subsidies, the riots resulted in 70 people killed, 700 injured, and 2,000 arrested, when the army was given a free hand to shoot without warning protestors gathered in big groups.

Sadat must now rely for voter support on army officers and a small body of nouveau riche. Any move to alienate the army could topple his administration, Prof. Mendeleev said.

A peaceful course would create fewer army jobs and take away powers now enjoyed by officers, mostly 1960s university graduates — such as policy-making positions in the bureaucracy and opportunities to get promotions and jobs for friends and family.

The need for foreign funds to eliminate Egypt's massive deficit creates other pressures for Sadat. "If Saudi Arabia pacifies Sadat with more funds, he will have to follow the Saudi Arabian line more closely."

Saudi Arabia gave Egypt only $3 billion towards paying off its $17 billion deficit after the 1973 war, "to keep Egypt on a leash, so Sadat can't create his own policy, and has to take advice from Saudi Arabia and the oil sheiks.

"But if Sadat is put on too short a leash it might collapse his regime. A Communist leader might take the reins of power, and Saudi Arabia would lose its influence on Egypt," he said.

It is unclear what Saudi Arabia might demand from Sadat in exchange for funds. Saudi Arabia, though nearly an ally of the United States, maintains an extreme Mideast position. King Khaled ibu Saud sees himself as a protector of Moslem interests and might pressure Sadat to negotiate or go to war to receive from Israel, "Jerusalem the Sacred".

Pressures are also mounting on Sadat as Syria, the extremist nation, gains the upper hand in the Arab world, Prof. Mendeleev continued.

The balance of power created between Sadat and Assad has become fragile, and Sadat is signalling the U.S. that unless more money is invested or granted to the Egyptian government, the cornerstone of U.S. policy in the Mideast will topple.

The existing balance between Egypt and Syria was based on Assad's agreement to Egypt's moderate way of pressuring Israel through the U.S. and withholding military tactics, in exchange for Sadat's agreement to Syrian dominance in Lebanon, over the Palestinian Liberation Organization, and the recreation of the front between Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.

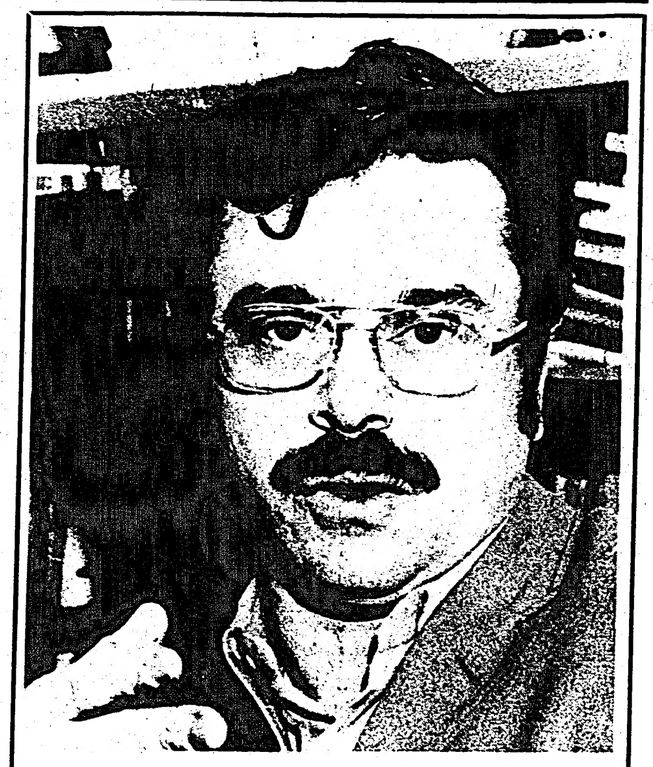
The combined armed forces of the new front, which wear the same uniforms, bear the same ranks, and follow Russian techniques of warfare, represent a new tool of power confronting Sadat.

But his plea to the U.S. for immediate financial aid to keep the offensive going may be a cry in the wilderness, as Syria becomes more and more the power to reckon with in peacekeeping talks, he said.

The new American secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, who is scheduled to visit Israel and Egypt in March, will have to consider whether it is worthwhile to give so much money to a shaky regime, or whether instead to turn to Syria and forsake Egypt to its own destiny, the professor added.

Because the Israeli government is so factionalized in its approach to a settlement, Prof. Mendeleev said, "it is not helping to create a coherent U.S. policy as regards the situation in the Mideast."

He asserted that Vance will have to create a policy that suits American needs in the Mideast — namely to have a strong Israel, and to maintain a close relationship with Saudi Arabia and Egypt.



(Religious News Service photo)

This Northwestern University professor, Arthur Butz, in a book claims the Nazi extermination of European Jews was nothing more than a Zionist inspired myth. The associate professor of electrical engineering's book, The Fabrication of a Hoax, was published last year in Britain. Its existence was disclosed recently in a Jerusalem Post article. The revelation has caused a furor on the campus and in the community of the university.

Aliyah from UK down 30%

LONDON (JCNS) — 1976 — proclaimed as the year of Jewish solidarity with Israel turned out to be the most dismal on record for British aliyah.

The latest figures released by the aliyah office of the Jewish Agency in London show that over the 11 months of last year only 352 British Jews went to Israel either as emigrants or temporary residents or tourists intending to settle. The number is over 30% down even on the previous year's comparatively low figure of 511.

Aliyah from Britain has been declining since 1972 when it reached nearly 1,000. This fell during 1973, the year which included the Yom Kippur War, to just over 700 and then came down below 700 in 1974.

But last year's total brings down British aliyah to well below its nadir of a quarter of a century ago, when it stood at around 500. Indeed, it may prove to be the poorest aliyah year since the establishment of Israel.

By contrast, 1976 proved a very good year for Israeli residents here returning home. The number of returning Israelis during the past 11 months was 235, compared with only 78 the previous year.

The unofficial estimate of Israeli residents in Britain is put at about 20,000.

Agency head orders yordim to be fired

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Uzi Narkis, director of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, has declared war on yordim.

He issued orders recently to fire yordim, their spouses and children from any jobs they may hold with the department abroad. In a television panel discussion of the problem, Narkis demanded that yordim in the United States should not be allowed to be involved in any way that would "legitimize" their emigration from Israel.

According to reports here, the number of yordim — Israelis who have left the country to reside abroad — has increased substantially since 1974, although authorities here concede that it is almost impossible to determine who has left permanently and who intends to return to Israel after a prolonged stay abroad.

The panel discussion followed an hour-long documentary on yordim who have "made it" in the U.S. The program focused on former Israelis in Los Angeles and the large Israeli community in New York City.

Participants in the discussion disagreed with Narkis' view that Israel should not in any way aid or encourage the Israeli community in America. They included former yordim, one of whom is considering returning to the U.S. after trying to resume his life in Israel during the last two years.

The documentary emphasized the "guilt feelings" of many yordim, especially those who have done well financially in the U.S.

Eban pulls out

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban has withdrawn his candidacy for the Labor Party's nomination for premier and has announced his support for Defence Minister Shimon Peres in his efforts to oust Premier Yitzhak Rabin from the post. Eban's announcement was made at his home before a group of 120 of his supporters, all but two of whom agreed to support Peres.

Eban said that because of the present leadership of Labor the party for the first time is isolated from other political factions. He said the present leadership has failed in bringing harmony and partnership not only within the Alignment and the government coalition, but also between the top leaders of the party itself.

Peres, who arrived at the end of the meeting, praised Eban and said that the former foreign minister will return soon to an active role in the government.

Denounce new law

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Rabbinical Alliance issued a scathing denunciation of the abortion law adopted by the Knesset. In its statement, the Alliance, which claims to represent a cross-section of 500 Orthodox rabbis in the United States and Canada, termed the Knesset action "irresponsible, reprehensible and highly immoral.

Continuing, the Alliance statement said: "It grieves us no end when we realize that this new law will do us more damage than all the efforts of the combined Arab nations.... The immoral, casual manner in which 40,000 to 70,000 fetuses are destroyed each year (in Israel) staggers the imagination....It seems cynical and sacreligious that the Jewish state, with only three million Jews, should now lead the way and show a complete disregard for human life."

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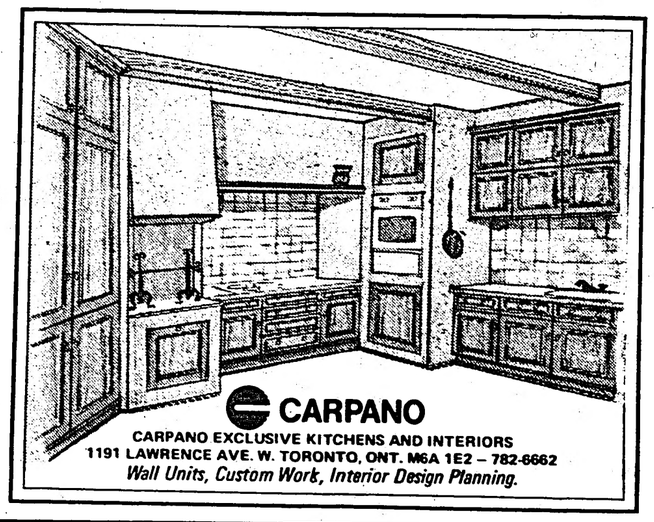

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Indifference of U.S. regime to Holocaust

Lack of unity hurt Jewry's appeal

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

TORONTO —

American Jews failed to change the Roosevelt administration's largely indifferent attitude toward the Holocaust partly because they were so "fragmented, divided and at each other's throats," an expert on the subject said last week at York University.

Henry L. Feingold suggested that American Jewry was unable to persuade President Roosevelt to save European Jews because the community was split along class, ideological and organizational lines.

Feingold, a professor of history at Baruch College, New York, told a small audience of students that various issues divided the community to such an extent that its leaders were unable to make a unified appeal to the White House on the question of European Jewry.

As a result, American Jewry could not address its plea to the president "with one voice", prompting Roosevelt to say in exasperation, "If only the Jews had a pope," he explained.

Two of the issues which split the community concerned settlement and a boycott of German manufactured goods. Zionists maintained that endangered Jews ought to be settled in Palestine, while territorialists contended that any locale would suffice, Feingold said.

Some Jews argued that a boycott would be counter-productive, and others pushed for it. This, combined with the 'uptown-downtown' dichotomy separating upper class, middle class and working class Jews, led to political impotence, he noted.

Feingold's speech, entitled "North American Jewry, Roosevelt and the Holocaust", was sponsored by the Jewish Student Federation during Holocaust Remembrance Week. Among the speakers were columnist J.B. Salsberg, writer Hava Kwinta and Alan Gould.

In his analysis, Feingold cited other reasons for the indifference of the Roosevelt regime toward the Holocaust.

The president was hyper-sensitive to the charges from anti-Semites that his administration was top-heavy with Jewish officials, and consequently, he insisted that non-Jewish refugees be allowed to enter the United States as well.

"Roosevelt was interested in the Jewish refugees, but he feared the political price he might have to pay," said Feingold, who nevertheless added it made little sense to accuse the president of doing nothing to facilitate Jewish emigration from German-controlled areas.

A depressed economy raised fears in Roosevelt's mind that the country would be unable to absorb them. Yet, Feingold said, the president never thought that the Jews — a talented and educated group — might be good for the economy.

Visa regulations were tightened, partly because U.S. officials believed that German spies were included among the Jewish refugees, and Congress opposed liberalized immigration laws, according to Feingold. All seven Jewish Congressmen voted to close the gates.

"We didn't make a distinction between political refugees — Jews — and immigrants and therefore American rescue policy worked in tandem with Hitler's Final Solution...it was one of the blackest pages of American history," he observed.

The attitude of Washington toward the trapped refugees can best be described as "an absence of will" rather than a "crisis or failure of will," Feingold commented.

Touching very briefly on Canada, he said: "The Canadian case was even worse than the American one." Ottawa accepted only solvent farmers and very few of those were Jews.

Hold meeting to decide on Home

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —

The Hamilton Jewish community is faced with making "one of the most important decisions, if not the most important decision this community has had to make in the last 10 years," outgoing Hamilton Jewish Federation president Albert I. Foreman told the combined federation and Jewish Community Centre annual general meeting recently.

A community-wide meeting has been called for 8 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 13 at the JCC to decide on the site for the future Jewish Home for the Aged.

Since the decision to build a home was taken almost two years ago, the originally favored location at York and Hess Streets had to be rejected because the price turned out to be considerably higher than was at first thought.

Also, the controversy over the future of the JCC came to a head a year ago, resulting in the commissioning of a study by community consultant Earl Yaillen on behalf of the Jewish Welfare Board. The centre's out-of-the-way location and outdated facilities caused financial problems resulting in inadequate staff and consequent weakening of services, and one of the recommendations contained in Yaillen's report is "that the possibility of including the Jewish Home for the Aged on the site of the new Jewish Community Centre building should be given consideration.

"Such a plan would offer extensive opportunities for collaborative programming and shared facilities for the older adult community," the report continues. "It would also be a more efficient use of community funds."

Two sites are under consideration. One, at Maclin Street in Westdale, has already been approved by the home's board of directors but it is large enough only for the home. The other is a considerably larger property in the west end of the city, close to the area with the largest concentration of Jews, which can easily accommodate both centre and home. One advantage of the latter site is an already established building which could be adapted for temporary centre and federation use until a new building is erected.

Reminding the community that everyone who contributes at least $10 to the Welfare Fund is a member of the HJF and thus entitled to a vote, Foreman urged that the meeting be attended by all who are interested "because the whole future of this community depends on the results of this meeting."

Samuel Taylor, a past chairman of the Hamilton UJWF and president of the JNF, was installed as the new president of the federation. Taylor, who will be honored later this year with a Negev dinner as Hamilton's Jewish Man of the Year, is also assistant treasurer of UIA, Canada, and as such, he said, some people might think he is wearing two hats. "But I don't consider that two hats, because in my opinion the Jewish community is just that: the Jewish community. Whether it's local or overseas is merely a geographical description...we are all one family!"

Serving on the new federation board with Taylor will be Bernard Greenbaum as first vice-president, Barbara Pollack and Norman Bennett as second and third vice-president respectively, Barbara Epstein, secretary and Harold Pomerantz, chairman personnel and finance.

Samuel Taylor (left), new president of the Hamilton Jewish Federation, is congratulated on his position by Albert I. Foreman, outgoing president of HJF.

Womens' 'activist' Esther Volpe dies at 82

TORONTO —

Esther Volpe, active in women's groups for six decades, died here last week at 82. Funeral services were held at Holy Blossom Temple.

Her community interests ranged from consumer groups, to theatre and opera, to senior citizens' clubs and a wide range of Jewish organizations.

One of the first Jewish women to attend the University of Toronto before World War I, Mrs. Volpe served as president of a variety of associations: the first women's auxiliary of Mount Sinai Hospital; Council of Jewish Women; Olga Shayne chapter of Hadassah; Canadian Association of Consumers; Council of Women of Toronto and the Women's Inter-Club Council, an organization encouraging women to enter politics.

Long interested in consumer affairs, she served on the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in the '40s, and was vice-president of the Health League of Canada.

Mrs. Volpe, Cleveland-born, was active in one of the early senior citizens' groups, the Second-Mile Club, and was president of the alumni of Holy Blossom until a recent illness.

A founding member of the Jewish Historical Society, she also worked on behalf of the Jewish Public Library and was a board member of Jewish Family and Child Service and Jewish Immigrant Aid Services.

She maintained an interest in both theatre and music, forming the Crest Theatre Club and aiding in the foundation of the Canadian Opera Company.

She leaves daughters Mildred Kirzner and Jennie Klotz, and son, Dr. Robert Volpe. Wife of the late Dr. Aaron Volpe, an internist at Mount Sinai, she had 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Jews reassess outlook

Cont'd from Page 1

Lasry concedes that "Jewish leadership is one of power and money" and that consequently Sephardim, as newcomers trying to attain financial stability, are beyond the mainstream of authority. He also doubts that the election has spawned the emergence of new blood in the top echelon.

But Irwin Cotler's assessment of leadership criteria for Quebec Jews in the future was not greeted with sympathy by "establishment" spokesmen: Leon Teitelbaum, chairman of Canadian Jewish Congress, Eastern Region, and Joe Ain, president of AJCS.

Says Ain: "No matter how much you do, you don't do enough." Leadership, he adds, is young and vigorous, with three out of eight AJCS officers, women. As far as academics are concerned, he agrees their level of involvement is low, but, in part, attributable to their disinterest.

Congress, says Teitelbaum, is grappling with the problem of involving Sephardim in its organization, but the francophone community itself is divided on the issue of joint initiatives. As for women, three vice-presidents of Congress are female and, he claims, any one could be president next time around.

Siding with Cotler on the issue of the community's crisis orientation, he notes: "The election has brought us a lot closer. It tightened up the family a little bit. We realize we have more problems than we thought."

Rosa Finestone, one of the three women vice-presidents of Congress, Eastern Region, says there is no discrimination against women in organizational life. "Women have just not accepted the challenge," she explains.

Involving the "grassroots" in decision-making is a "motherhood" issue, she says, "and who is against motherhood? Of course we want to involve them." Bright young women, she adds, are now busy developing careers and are turning in smaller numbers to community work.

A member of the board of directors of AJCS, she says the election has produced "a kind of kinship I didn't see before....Hopefully it might wake up younger people to see that leadership is a duty."

First Canada-Israel symposium on trade to take place in June

TORONTO —

The first Canada-Israel Trade Symposium will take place in Israel in the late spring. It is being organized and sponsored by the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the co-chairmanship of Harold Greenberg of Montreal and R. Lou Ronson of Toronto.

The symposium, to take place in Tel Aviv and Haifa at the beginning of June, will be held immediately prior to the Tel Aviv International Trade Fair, Technology '77, to allow participants to enjoy the benefits of two events concerned with fostering bilateral trade. Ontario Premier William Davis indicated in his visit to Israel that the province will co-operate with the symposium.

There is no better way of making business contacts than face-to-face meetings and discussions with the commercial community of Israel, said the CICC in making the announcement of the symposium. High level representatives of trade, banking and government from both countries will participate in the symposiums. Opportunities for private meetings will be available along with visits to offices and factories.

The CICC says there will be specialized, professional workshops encompassing a variety of product fields to allow for an exchange of ideas and information. Luncheons and dinners will be sponsored by a number of Israeli trade associations and government bureaus.

Ontario Minister of Industry and Tourism Claude Bennett said in a recent address the symposium "is of great interest to us...Not only has Israel become industrialized in a very short time, but it has become a world leader in some sophisticated fields of science and technology. Israel and Canada can exchange expertise in these fields."

The mission will leave Montreal on May 30 and return home June 13. More information on the symposium is available from the CICC.

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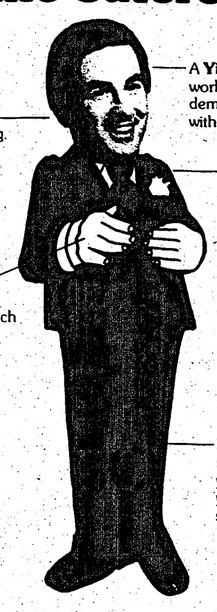

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Our moral imperative

Jewish students at York University presented a program of Holocaust remembrance recently featuring a series of films, interviews and seminars. Topics ranged from the rise of Nazism, the liberation of the concentration camps, the literature of the Holocaust and the role of North American Jewry.

The idea for such a program is commendable.

A recent speaker in Toronto suggested that it might be counterproductive to expose Jewish people to the Holocaust because the record of Nazi barbarism and world indifference towards the plight of European Jewry might incline those who study the phenomenon to despair.

This perception, however correct it may be viewed from a narrow perspective, was not shared by the organizers of the York programs. They saw definite instructional value in the film record of the Nazi war against the Jews as well as informed discussion of the response and martyrdom of the six million.

There is a definite need for approaches of this sort.

Barely 32 years have passed since the liberation of the camps occurred and already human malevolence is busy perverting and distorting the fact of Jewish suffering during the Holocaust.

The Arabs, driven by their own myopic ends, deny any responsibility for the Holocaust (the Mufti and the Arab SS units are conveniently forgotten), that is, when they are not charging Jews with "grotesque exaggerations" about the numbers killed during the war.

This is also a line being pursued vigorously by a small but noisy group of German neo-Nazis who have published books purporting to prove that photographs of concentration camp victims have been doctored in order to promote hatred of Germans.

One can, of course, dismiss the near dementia of the Arabs in this regard. Nor can one expect much from Nazis, neo or not. How is one to react, however, to John Lukacs and his recent book, **The Last European War**? Here is a work by a distinguished historian who argues, among other things, that Germany's unfortunate extermination of the Jews has convinced liberal-minded people that Nazi Germany was worse than the Soviet Union when in fact Nazi Germany was better.

Lukacs attempts to exonerate Hitler from legal responsibility for the Holocaust by denying that the latter was present at the famous Wannsee conference of 1942 which decided on the "final solution." Again, this historian views Jews primarily as cowards fleeing from Amsterdam to the south, or as rich gluttons, or as whores fraternizing with SS troops in the ghettos.

That a book containing such statements could be printed in the United States in 1976 is eloquent testimony to the need for continual exposure to Jews and Gentiles of the true facts of the Holocaust.

We study the Holocaust today fully aware of its monumental tale of suffering and anguish, but also of its incredible heroism. We study it because we have no choice; it is our moral imperative.

Good news

The news out of Syria regarding the situation of the Jews there appears to be getting better month by month. Recently, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported that Damascus had eased some of the restrictions besetting Syria's 4,500 Jews. North American Jewish groups reacted skeptically to the disclosure and perhaps there was good reason for their skepticism.

Early this year, Brooklyn Congressman Stephen Solarz visited the community in Damascus and returned with some good tidings which tend to confirm the accuracy of the Kuwaiti report. Mr. Solarz is a cautious man not given to exaggeration and thus his revelation that the Syrian government has relaxed discriminatory restrictions against the Jews should be accepted at face value, even by those voices in the Diaspora who cry the loudest.

He admits that President Assad still refuses to allow members of the community to emigrate, fearing they will immigrate to Israel and thereby augment its military strength. Yet Mr. Solarz has learned that the identity cards of Jews will no longer carry the designation "musawi", the Arabic word for follower of Moses; that Jews will be permitted to travel within the country without prior special permission, and that they will be able to dispose of the proceeds of the sales of personal property.

According to the congressman, President Assad has also agreed to lower the amount of the bond posted when a Jew goes abroad on a tourist visa or for reasons of health, and promised to consider the request that some 400 young Jewish women be given permission to emigrate to the United States to find husbands.

The American State Department confirms his findings. As a spokesman put it: "We've been acquiring information which indicates further improvements are being made in the conditions of life of Jews in Syria."

We feel quite encouraged by the news, and hope that more of it will be forthcoming from Damascus in the months ahead.

A remarkable episode

This was not an ordinary soccer match. It was a happening — an event which may very well presage fundamental changes in the Middle East.

Several weeks ago, Lebanese militia men and Israeli reserve troops dropped whatever they were doing and played soccer, underscoring the current tranquility of Israel's northern border. The Lebanese, members of the Christian village of Klea, crossed into Israel wearing camouflage uniforms and carrying guns. "We came to play because we didn't have anything to do," explained a Christian player. "The weather is cold and the exercise keeps you warm."

Idleness may have driven them to play, but only a distinct change of heart impelled them to engage in an activity which a few short years ago would have been considered treasonous.

An Israeli border policeman, who was also armed, acted as referee. He used his police whistle to call fouls. One hundred persons, including Lebanese from nearby hamlets, watched the sides battle to a 2-2 draw.

The game was played in Ma'alot, where more than a dozen school children were massacred by Palestinian terrorists in 1974. If part of the intent of the game was to heal the wounds of the past, a more appropriate locale could not have been chosen.

We are in no position to comment on the quality of the encounter, but no matter. What counts, to paraphrase sports writer Grantland Rice, is that they played the game. In the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict, this was a remarkable episode, and hopefully, a sign of the times.

Peace is not around the corner, and many more years will elapse before Arabs and Israelis whittle down their differences. Yet this soccer game was significant. It represented one small step toward reconciliation.

It shouldn't be minimized.

Paying the price

Cultural assimilation is one of the inevitable prices American Jewry has paid for the freedom, affluence and influence it so bountifully enjoys. In a nation where merit and ambition usually count for more than class and religion, Jews have done remarkably well. From the first days of Jewish settlement in the United States, intermarriages and mixed marriages have taken their toll, and one social scientist has even estimated that about 20% of the total population have at least one lone Jew in their family tree.

Whatever the accuracy of that figure, the implications of it are rather obvious. Just as anti-Semitism threatened European Jews in the '30s, so acculturation threatens American Jewry today.

Nothing illustrates this state of affairs better than the cabinet choices made by President Jimmy Carter. One man, a Jew, is married to a Protestant. Two are converts to Christianity and a third is a Christian whose mother was Jewish.

Harold Brown, the secretary of defence, was the first Jewish Secretary of the Air Force, and prior to being appointed to his latest position, he served as president of the prestigious California Institute of Technology. Secretary of the Treasury Werner Michael Blumenthal was baptized at birth and has no connections with the Jewish community. James Schlesinger, the former secretary of defense and CIA boss, who was appointed energy advisor, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah but converted to Lutheranism at the age of 21. The parents of Theodore Chaikin Sorensen, who nearly became CIA chief, were of Danish and Jewish origin.

Conclusion? As long as America remains committed to democratic ideals, and as long as Jews are willing to partake of its culturally rich and invigorating society, this problem will remain in the forefront of Jewish concern. It is something the Jewish community will have to realistically face.

Despite Brazil's foreign policy, its 'Israeli connection' is strong

By HENRY SREBRNIK
[First of two parts]

RIO DE JANEIRO — External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson, who visited this country for a week in mid-January, may not be aware of it, but one Brazilian in 700 is a Jew.

In this gigantic nation — the world's fifth in area, with a population of 110 million increasing in numbers at a rate of 2.9% annually — Jews are concentrated mainly in the big cities of the southeast. Of Brazil's 165,000 Jews, fully half are in the large commercial centre of Sao Paulo; another 50,000 live among the 4½ million cariocas of Rio de Janeiro.

Jews in Rio tend to live in middle-class areas of the city, such as Tijuca; the more affluent have in recent years been moving into the "Zona Sul" — the classy beach sections of Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon. (I visited an apartment in Ipanema, situated along the oceanfront Avenida Vieira Souto, to attend a Zionist youth meeting — whoever coined the word 'swank' must have had this magnificent neighborhood in mind.) Obviously, in this overwhelmingly Catholic country — where the Southern Cross on the national flag is only one among the many crucifixes visible on the streets — many Jews have done well.

The community is composed of businessmen, manufacturers, a few bankers (such as Mauricio Shulman, of the Banco Nacional de Habitacao), liberal professionals like doctors and lawyers, and technocrats. While Brazilian Jewry counts within its ranks men like Israel Klabin, the ceramics and paper magnate, and wealthy builders such as Julio Bogoricin and Haim Nigri ("they've constructed more buildings than I have hairs on my head," one woman told me), most are petty bourgeois; one person called them "nouveau riche." There are now few Jewish workers, and the once-influential Bund is moribund.

Many Jews still own small, old-fashioned clothing and general goods stores in the narrow lanes and streets of central Rio; quite a few are also jewelers, and have walk-up shops in old buildings, along Rua Buenos Aires. One elderly Polish immigrant, upon hearing me speak Yiddish, immediately pressed on me a copy of Rio's Yiddish daily Yiddishe Presse (Imprensa Israelita). The paper — on the rocks, as are Yiddish journals the world over — carried a front-page appeal from editor David Markus for financial assistance from its readers.

While Rio's Jews still maintain Jewish schools like A. Liessin, in Botafogo, and Sholem Aleichem, in Tijuca, where Yiddish is taught, and while there are Yiddish songs played on the **Jewish Hour** heard Sunday mornings on radio, still, "Yiddish is being asphyxiated," according to 50-year-old novelist and Radio Globo news commentator Helio Tis. An advocate of Yiddish culture, he lamented that "no one reads Peretz, or Asch. One hardly hears a Yiddish word these days."

Under the community's umbrella organization, the Federacao Israelita do Rio de Janeiro, are to be found the usual political and socio-cultural groups and movements: the Organizacao Sionista Unificada, the Liga Feminina Israelita do Brasil, Sociedade Beneficente damas Israelitas (Froyen Farayn), Pioneer Women, WIZO, ORT and so forth. While the community is internally mainly Zionist, it is not as well organized as it might be, and in this it has been criticized by younger, university-based groups.

"The Jewish politicians exercise no leadership, and political participation of Jews in general Brazilian life is very low," one activist told me. "Jews are not that important in Brazil — we have no political weight. There are only 160,000 of us — and we have no oil!"

This lack of influence became glaringly apparent in November, 1975, when Brazil cast its UN vote in favor of the "Zionism is Racism" resolution, and many accused Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira of anti-Semitism. In pure theory, Zionist parties are not really legal, as the military regime of President Ernesto Geisel allows only two official parties — his own ARENA (National Renewal Alliance) and the opposition MDB (Brazilian Democratic Movement).

There are at present two Jewish deputies in the state assembly of Rio, Mauricio Pinkusfeld, who is married to a non-Jew and not too involved in communal affairs, and Silbert Sobrinho. The latter, in the MDB, was deposed as chairman of the assembly by Rio's state governor, Chagas Freitas, when accused by his political enemies of having ties with Communists. As well, there is Emanuel Waissman, who serves as a federal deputy from Rio in Congress, and is involved in Zionist affairs.

Municipal elections were held in the city last November, and five Jews ran for seats on the 21-member council, two for ARENA and three for the MDB. Among them were Marcos Halfim, a lawyer and former president of the Hebraica club, and Carlos Nuzman, president of the Brazilian Volleyball Confederation. The Jewish vote in the city was split, and all five lost.

In spite of the foreign policy pursued by Itamaraty (Brazil's foreign ministry), the "Israeli connection" remains strong among Rio's Jews. Last May's Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations held in the city, were attended by Israeli Consul-General Efraim Dowek; Dr. E. H. Nigri, president of the Zionist organization in Rio; and the son of Oswaldo Aranha, the Brazilian who was president of the UN General Assembly in 1948 and helped swing votes in Israel's favor.

Three months later, Leah Rabin, wife of Israel's premier, visited Brazil. And just this past Jan. 5, Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek, paid a call on Rio's Cardinal Eugenio Sales and presented him with a fourth-century Byzantine Cross. Kollek's denunciation of Arab duplicity in using oil as a political weapon got front-page newspaper coverage in petroleum-conscious Brazil, where gasoline now retails for about $2.40 a gallon.

Just at year's end, as well, an accord was signed between Prof. Boris Blinder, president of Brazil's Zionist organization, and Dr. Euro Brandao, secretary-general of the Ministry of Education and Culture, creating PIABI, a project which will enable Brazilian Jewish youth to study agriculture in Israel and gain credits in Brazil. Obviously, not all Brazilian government departments oppose Zionism.

Jewish social life in Rio revolves to a large extent around five clubs: Hebraica (the biggest, and now 25 years old), Monte Sinai (with 800 members), Macabeus (a smaller club), the Sephardic CIB (Club Israelita Brasilerio), and the non-Zionist ASA (Associacao Sholem Aleichem). Like North American YMHAs, they serve the educational, cultural and recreational needs of their members; the six-storey Monte Sinai in Tijuca, for example, which I visited, includes a theatre, social room (where older members indulge in card playing), basketball court, a swimming pool, an auditorium for festive occasions, and of course — this is Pele country — a soccer field.

Rio also has about a score of synagogues, including the modern, Conservative, Templo da Associacao Religiosa Israelita, built in 1961, with an eliptical roof and walls composed entirely of stained glass windows; and the older, Orthodox, Grande Templo Israelita, Rio's biggest, constructed in a more traditional style.

The Jewish community also maintains an old people's home, in Jacarepagua, and two beis oylims, far from the city centre, in Vila Rosali. Here in the hills, full of the smells and sounds of the tropics, beneath the glaring hot sun of equatorial Brazil, is the Cemiterio Israelita do Rio de Janeiro, and here lie buried Jews with birthplaces like Cracow, Warsaw and Czestochowa, among them my great-aunt. The cemetery also includes a mausoleum in memory of the six million.

Henry Srebrnik, a frequent contributor, is a Montreal freelance journalist and lecturer in political science at Dawson College.

> 'Jews are not important in Brazil —we number only 160,000 and we have no oil'

Release from internment on Cyprus allowed thousands to finally reach Israel

Landmark Events In Our History

By ROCHELLE CARR

It was Feb. 10 (some say, Feb. 16), 1949. The odyssey of thousands of Jews had ended. On that day, the last group of Jews, interned in camps on the island of Cyprus for attempting to enter Palestine without British authorization, left for the nascent state of Israel.

In essence, the story of the camps on Cyprus, which constituted a black page in the annals of British-Jewish relations, began in 1939 with the publication of the White Paper. Through that document, the British government instituted several restrictions, including limitations on Jewish immigration into Palestine.

In light of the fact that the British held the Palestine mandate through the authorization of the League of Nations, many argued about the legality of the unilateral British action. But, the voices that were raised in protest went unheeded by a world on the brink of war.

When World War II broke out, millions of Jews found themselves confronted with two problems — to get out of Europe and to get into another country. Palestine held little hope. Despite the fact that the White Paper was supposed to allow 60,000 Jews to enter between 1940-44, only 32,000 certificates were issued. Those who entered Palestine without the certificates were usually interned at Atlit or other camps in the country.

Notwithstanding the obstacles, during the war and, with increased fervor, after the war, thousands of Jews attempted, somehow, to enter Palestine. When entrance by sea became next to impossible, the desperate Jews tried a variety of overland routes, often with the aid of their co-religionists in Palestine.

When the war ended, the work of Aliyah Bet (the arm of Haganah that aided, by every ingenious means, the persecuted European Jews to enter Palestine) greatly accelerated.

As high as 70% of those who survived the concentration camps wanted to start life anew in the Holy Land. Their determination knew no bounds, as was demonstrated by the thousands of them who often walked to southern ports in Europe in the hope of boarding a Haganah ship that would try to get them to Palestine.

By August 1946, the number of refugees trying to enter without a certificate was so great that the British announced that all such persons who were caught would be interned in camps on Cyprus. Of the 67,000 or so refugees who fled Europe for Palestine during 1947-48, about 52,000 were stopped by the British and held on Cyprus.

Ironically, in 1899, some of the early Zionists, who were distressed over the abortive talks with Turkey about a Jewish homeland in Palestine, looked at Cyprus as a possible location for a Jewish colony.

Letter to the Editor

Boycott will not succeed

Dear Editor:

"Liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the right of free trade"

Ever since Adam Smith in his **Wealth of Nations** (1776) quoted this most prolific statement, the world's traders have hustled, bustled and almost busted at the seams to provide goods and services for the nations of the world. In Smith's time, this implied demands for goods and services to meet the needs of developing nations emerging from an agrarian to an industrial economy.

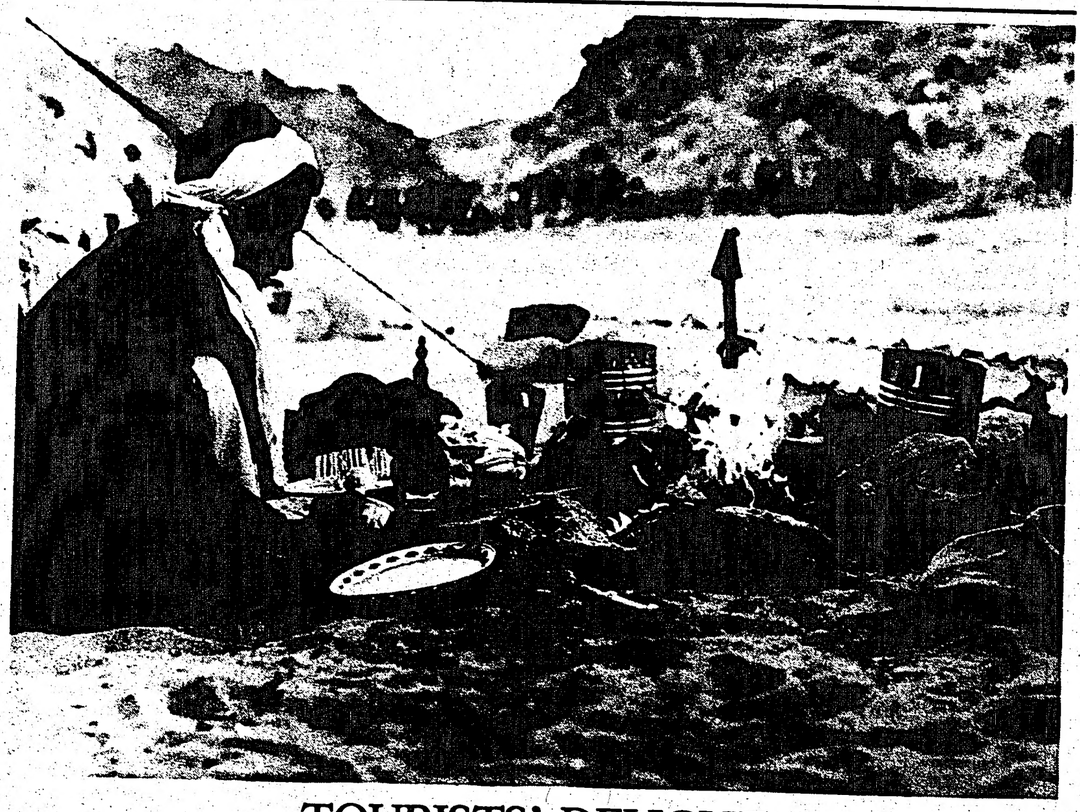
However, in a short period of 200 years since Smith's time, what started as a means for man to provide goods and services for his fellow man has somewhat extended from one of 'needs' to 'greeds' and we, as participants of the so-called free world, are confronted with a moral dilemma which juxtaposes shortages and surpluses — the difficult compromise of providing equitable distribution of goods and services to both the rich and poor nations and, in an economic sense, to determine who gets what, how much and when.

Such economic and social inequities between nations are compounded by a handful of oil-rich nations who have vowed within the framework of world-wide economic genocide to drive Israel into the seas.

Jewish people, who have escaped the murderous Holocaust, who returned to their native cities to receive anger and hostility, and who survived a life of tribulation and adversity, have established the right to immigrate to the land of Israel and to make a new life in an independent state. Such people will not be deterred by economic boycotts and the manifestations of racism.

Furthermore, the boycott will not be successful because of a basic disregard for the tenets of natural law which unequivocally state that no man can hold property in man, nor can any nation prosper at the expense of another nation. Such laws are the very foundation of a democratic society and hold good for all times.

Manuel Linden,
Toronto



TOURISTS' DELIGHT

Take any guided tour of the Sinai and you will encounter the Bedouins. This Sinai Bedouin, camped in the southern mountains prepares to pour coffee as tourists approach. The fiercely independent tribesmen live in one of harshest terrains in the world.

Mass exodus, however, considered unlikely

South African political uncertainty has stimulated aliyah

By DAVID FRANK

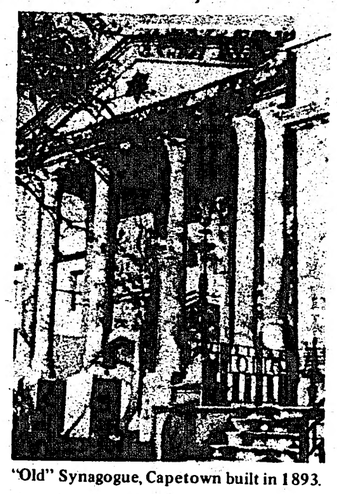
As part of the privileged white minority, the Jews of South Africa have lived for decades in a veritable hothouse, relatively isolated from the woes that beset so many other societies. Labor unrest, border warfare and spiralling inflation were, until very recently, foreign to the easy untroubled life led by South African whites.

But events in neighboring Angola, Mozambique and Rhodesia, and eruptions in the Black urban ghettos inside the country, have propelled South Africa into a new era of unrest, violence and radical change.

How will South Africa's Jews react to the current portents of insecurity and to the inexorable erosion of their unique, privileged position? For 150 years, they have enjoyed comfort and prosperity beyond the experience of most other Jewish communities. What now?

There is certainly an element among the Jewish population that will fight alongside the **verkrampte** (right-wing hardliner) Afrikaners in defence of white superiority. It is difficult to assess just how many of these die-hard Jews there are. Most of the politically active Jews are to be found in the white liberal camp, where they have recently been joined by a growing number of Afrikaner intellectuals. These people are appealing to the intransigent Nationalist government for drastic liberalization of the country's apartheid policies.

Some Jews are preparing to leave the country, or have already left. However, while the number of emigrants is growing,



"Old" Synagogue, Capetown built in 1893.

there is still no mass exodus. It must be stressed that emigration is not peculiar to the Jews but is, rather, a general phenomenon among those whites who view the future pessimistically.

But most members of the Jewish community simply wait — as countless generations of Jews have waited — weighing up the domestic situation, making provisional arrangements "just in case," but refusing to take decisive action. For they believe that the current disturbances constitute no more than an unpleasant interlude, like the outburst of Black violence at the township of Sharpeville 15 years ago.

They place their trust in the prime minister, and in the strength of the police and the army, hoping, despite indications to the contrary, that minor adjustments in the "system" will make it possible for them to keep their lucrative businesses, gracious homes and genial life-style for many years to come.

"Raise their salaries a bit, let them play rugger with us and stop calling them 'boy' — and everything will work out all right," one successful Jewish businessman assured me, brushing off any suggestion of emigration.

Most of those leaving, Jew and Gentile alike, vie for entry visas to Canada (currently regarded as the land of greatest promise), the United States, Australia and other English-speaking countries.

Some of the Jews thinking of emigration also consider Israel. The Aliyah Department of the South African Zionist Federation in Johannesburg has, over the past six months, had to increase its staff in order to cope with the flood of enquiries about life in Israel. The federation's Tel Aviv office is no less busy dealing with an unprecedented number of South Africans who are in Israel to see for themselves what conditions are like.

But investigation should not be confused with emigration. While Jews tend to consider aliyah as an option — perhaps out of genuine interest, perhaps as a salve to conscience — the general experience tends to indicate that most Jews who emigrate (not only from South Africa) simply prefer to shift their residence to another corner of the Western Diaspora.

None the less, since July, aliyah from South Africa has risen 30% in comparison with the corresponding period last year, and the number of families registered at absorption centres for the first quarter of 1977 exceeds the figure for the whole of this year.

Considering that the South African Jewish population totals 116,000, absolute figures for aliyah from that country are hardly impressive. But on a proportional basis, the 8,500 ex-South Africans who have settled in Israel would be equivalent to an aliyah of over 400,000 American Jews.

Between 1948 and 1966, about 200 South African Jews immigrated to Israel annually. Only one year was exceptional — 1961, when the number quadrupled in the wake of the Sharpeville rioting, but many of these newcomers returned to South Africa as soon as things had quietened down again.

The Six Day War had a universally beneficient effect on Western aliyah, increasing the flow of South Africans to some 500 a year. Then the pall spread over Israel by the Yom Kippur War reduced aliyah to a trickle.

South African Zionist Federation leaders balk at actively and openly advocating aliyah — through fear, perhaps, of upsetting the status quo and, at the same time, drawing attention to their own failure to serve as personal examples.

Concern about the future in the sub-continent is shared by the substantial community of yordim there. It is reliably estimated that between 22,000 and 25,000 Israelis are currently resident in South Africa, and very few of them can be explained away as students or visiting musicians.

To sum up, South African Jews are approaching a crossroad. Although generally aware of the fast-changing reality in which they live, they tend to delude themselves into believing that "**alles sal reg kom**" (everything will be all right), apparently ignoring the lessons of history and failing to grasp the meaning of recent events in their region. The majority sit tight, discuss the future — and wait.

Aliyah statistics are bound to improve slightly in the coming year or two, but it is highly unlikely that there will be any sort of mass immigration, whatever the turn and pace of events on the sub-continent. The Jews of South Africa, no less than their brethren across the Atlantic, invariably want assurances about life-style, security and income before they will condescend to settle here.

[Jerusalem Post]

Memorial to 5,000 slain Jews lies hidden, forgotten in Minsk

By JERRY FAIVISH

MINSK, USSR —

It is a small memorial hidden in the central area of the city of Minsk and concealed from the minds of most of the city's inhabitants. Ask people about it and the usual response is either a blank stare or the shaking of heads.

It is hidden, because it is a monument that is specifically dedicated to those Jews of Minsk, who were massacred in World War II, or the "Great Patriotic War" as the Russians like to call it. So when you ask where it is, they either don't know or don't want to know, or if they do know, they tell you very quickly, as if they are ashamed that it still exists. But it does.

It is located in an older Jewish area of the city, surrounded by old brown, wooden, single-family houses and dirt streets. But nearby, in the distance, they are building huge new apartment buildings, which ominously loom on the horizon. The monument is nestled in a green valley sunk into the ground. You have to look down onto it and it is as if one were looking into an open pit with a single gravestone in the centre.

The total impression is one of serenity; everything is very simple, yet very effective, especially in comparison to some of the huge, grandiose Russian war memorials. It is very silent here. While the silence lends much to the memorial's effectiveness, unfortunately it also adds to its obscurity, for it is the silence of obscurity.

Even nature shelters the memorial, as trees surround the front portion, and line the sides. Thus, unless one appreciates the significance of the area, it can easily be mistaken for a park. From the street, one has to go down a long walkway, and then up again in order to reach the central platform, symbolic of a raised massed grave.

A simple straight monument evokes the tragedy of a terrible past. For on March 2, 1942 in this city of Minsk, about 5,000 Jews were butchered and shot, victims of a Nazi demand for victims.

This memorial, the only post-Holocaust one in the USSR with a Yiddish inscription and which mentions Jewish martyrs, recalls those events:

"A shining remembrance for all time to the 5,000 holy Jews who were slaughtered at the hands of Nazis — enemies of mankind, German fascists, murderers and hangmen — the fourteenth of Adar, 1942."

But still, it is the silence which tells the story today. No one hears the message of the monument; no one talks about preventing a future recurrence. Soon there won't even be a memorial to remind. When the old houses are torn down, and the new apartments built, this unique, unobtrusive memorial will somehow be lost. Not only will its message be ignored, it will be silenced as well.

The silence is not just the silence of the Jews of Russia who died as of a Jewish past, but also symbolic of the silencing of the Jews of Russia today.

Jerry Faivish is an articling law student in Toronto.

(Graphic Artists photo)

Three volunteers involved in Jewish Education Day, sponsored by North-East Jewish Community Services, stand outside Zion School which is being renovated for use as NEJCS new quarters. From the left, they are Darlene Gan, Bryon Cohen and Helen Eisen.

Services being improved in community's fastest growing area, north-east Toronto

TORONTO —

One of the primary concerns of the organized Toronto Jewish community the last couple of years has been to provide services and facilities to the fastest growing area — the north-east sector, with about 20,000 Jewish population.

Because the residents live in disparate and unconnected pockets, North-East Community Services has been involved in the area for more than two years. A joint project of Toronto Jewish Congress and YM-YWHA, with the co-operation of Jewish Family & Child Service, NEJCS is funded by the United Jewish Appeal.

It was established primarily to try to relate this wide-spread Jewish segment of population both to the organized Jewish community and to the general community of North York. Some needs which have already been identified by area residents are counselling services, out-reach, recreational programs, cultural and educational programs, day care services, community development and public education.

As a further step to provide information about the latter, representatives of the Board of Jewish Education, Toronto day schools, afternoon and Sunday schools in the north-east area will be on hand for Jewish Education Day on Sunday, Feb. 20 from 2 to 5 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue on Bayview Avenue.

The afternoon will provide a unique opportunity for parents of young children to learn about Jewish education facilities available to residents. There will be a full-scale children's program featuring puppet shows and films, while adults attend discussion workshops which will deal with rising fees, standards of education and many other areas of concern. Rabbi Irwin Witty, BJE executive director, will take part in a question and answer period.

NEJCS came into being in November, 1975 and for more than a year operated out of a trailer based on the parking lot of the Wycliffe Shopping Centre at Leslie and Dexter. A move to new quarters in the Zion School at Finch near Leslie is scheduled later this month.

Close to $60,000 has been allocated by UJA to NEJCS for the 1976-77 fiscal year, which is to cover operating expenses, special events and programming. Program planning committees, consisting entirely of volunteers living in the area are actively engaged in recreational activities for children and adults, Jewish family life education, including a workshop on Jewish education for teenagers and senior citizens.

Correction

A letter in the Jan. 7 issue was incorrectly attributed to Jonia Jeigleman. It should have read Tonia Feigleman. The word 'sanskrit' should have appeared 'sursit'.

Tolerance key to religious question

By J. B. SALSBERG

As I informed you last week, uncle Eliezer's friend, Mendle, and Mendle's landsman, the Mizrachi activist, were responsible for disturbing the peace of mind of the Thursday night, steam-bath regulars.

Even my uncle began to accept Mendle's suggestions that the formal, block affiliation of the world bodies of the Reform and Conservative synagogues to the World Zionist Organization marked the beginning of serious religious conflicts in Israel.

During the many tea-drinking sessions in my home it became apparent that although all three of my visitors were genuinely afraid of an acute religious conflict in Israel, they differed widely on the methods to be taken to avoid it.

As for the Mizrachi scenario, it went as follows. The rabbis and lay leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements are already holding commanding positions in the national and international Zionist organizations. That also applies to the very influential Hadassah organization. The rank-and-file of both non-Orthodox branches are free to join any of the existing Zionist political parties in Israel and in the Diaspora and many of them did, of course, join. So why the block affiliation and why the guaranteed representation of Reform and Conservatives on the governing bodies of the W.Z.O. and at conventions of the W.Z.O.?

Our Mizrachi friend, having raised the question, offered a ready answer. The real reason for the affiliation, the Mizrachi landsman asserted, was their desire to gain additional clout to dismantle the entire pattern of religious authority in Israel and to replace it with one that the Reformers call "religious pluralism."

"In other words," the Mizrachi spokesman stressed, "what they want is to achieve equal rights for Reform and Conservative rabbis and congregations in Israel, rights that have, until now, been reserved exclusively for the Orthodox streams of Judaism."

The Mizrachi champion quoted from articles that Rita Eisendrath and others wrote in this paper recently to prove his point. He concluded with the prediction that all Orthodox sectors in Israel, including Mizrachi, will resist any attempt to extend rabbinic authority to the Reform or Conservative rabbis in Israel. That will create the conflicts and strife that he predicts.

How to avoid the conflict? The Mizrachi friend asserted that the only way to avoid conflict is to retain the status quo.

Mendle, uncle Eliezer's best friend, argued that his fear is based on the lawless reactions of the religious extremists in Israel, to the right of Mizrachi, to any governmental move to grant religious equality to the two non-Orthodox communities in Israel. The extremists have shown their recklessness before and they will not hesitate now, Mendle believes.

What's his solution? Mendle admits that the Reform and Conservative communities in Israel "have a good case," but he wonders whether, in view of the overall dangers facing Israel, the religious rights issue should not be postponed for a later date.

Uncle Eliezer's position is a far more complex one. In his view, Jews, who have always fought for religious freedom, and who have long ago accepted and applied this principle in the internal relationships of most, if not all, Jewish communities in the world, cannot possible support another, a discriminatory policy in the Jewish state. But uncle Eliezer is also afraid of the consequences of a religious confrontation at this time.

"So how will you resolve the problem," I asked him. "By supporting our Mizrachi friend and asking the Reform and Conservative communities to accept second class citizenship in Israel?"

"No," my uncle answered, "one can't do that." "Well, then," I pursued the question, "would you accept Mendle's idea that the non-Orthodox sectors should delay asking for their religious rights to some future day?" "No," replied my uncle, "on principled grounds I can't do that." My poor uncle is obviously in a painful dilemma.

My own view, I said to my three visitors, is that objective developments, or call it history, presented us with a crucial but inescapable challenge. We must all recognize the new Jewish reality and adjust accordingly or fly in the face of reality and pay a costly price in the future.

The new reality is that all Jewish communities in the western world have adjusted very well to the religious transformations that have taken place among us. Reform and Conservative lay and leadership people sit side-by-side with those of Orthodox or secular affiliations on all Jewish committees, boards, commissions etc; they work together on fund-raising projects and they stand as one before governments on matters affecting Jewish interests at home, internationally or the Jewish state.

But when those same rabbis or lay leaders come to Israel they are denied the religious rights which they enjoy in their own communities. Worse, when the adherents of those non-Orthodox sectors settle in Israel they find, to their dismay, that the religious freedom they enjoyed in Boston or Montreal or Toronto is denied them in Israel. It is obvious that this can't go on for long without tragic consequences.

"So what's to be done?" asked my uncle, while the other two visitors looked on. I replied that in my opinion the problem has to be faced realistically, but faced with moderation and tolerance on all sides. "I would agree," said my uncle, "if I thought that it would work." My answer was, "I see no other course, short of a harmful conflict, so let's call on all reasonable people on both sides to be realistic, to be reasonable and, above all, to be tolerant."

My wise Mizrachi friend smiled but said nothing. Mendle said that I have more faith than he has. My good uncle Eliezer said, "oy, halevaih."

Discontent expressed over the regular burial given suicide victim Ofer

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

REHOVOT —

Some of Israel's ultra-Orthodox rabbis have expressed disagreement with the decision of Chief Rabbis Shlomo Goren and Ovadia Yosef to allow the late Housing Minister Avraham Ofer to be given a normal burial despite the fact that he had committed suicide.

Nechemia Meyers

Like most religions, Judaism is deeply opposed to a man taking his own life and it has been customary to bury suicides in unconsecrated ground outside the cemetery fence. But sometimes an exception is made, as it was in this case. In response to a request from Prime Minister Rabin that Ofer be given a regular funeral and burial, Chief Rabbi Goren agreed, explaining that if there was a possibility that the deceased had even a few seconds of consciousness before his death in which he could have felt regret for his deed and repented, this provided sufficient grounds for burying him inside the cemetery.

Goren had several times made such a ruling in regard to suicides by soldiers during his period of service as chief chaplain of the Israel Defense Forces.

Chief Rabbi Yosef also agreed to a regular burial for Ofer, but added that in cases where the suicide gave prior warning of his intentions, he should be buried outside the cemetery fence.

Israel has a relatively low incidence of suicides, namely 5.5 per 100,000 population. Of course, statistics on the subject are not completely reliable here or elsewhere, as efforts may be made by relatives of the deceased — who feel shamed by the suicide — to present it as an accident or as death from natural causes.

Of suicides listed as such, a recent Hebrew University study showed, 60% were carried out by men and 40% by women. At the same time, two-thirds of the unsuccessful suicide attempts involved women.

Contrary to what most Israelis believe, suicides are not unusually high during "sharav" days when hot desert winds blow across the country and people tend to be in a bad mood. However, men and women do take their own lives more often during the summer than during the winter, and the often boiling-hot Jordan Valley has, relative to its population, the country's highest suicide rate.

Another popular belief contradicted by the Hebrew University study is that people who take their own lives tend to come from the better-educated sections of the population. In Israel, at least, the majority of those who commit suicide, 56.4% to be exact, have an elementary school education or less, and only a small number of suicides (6.4%) are university graduates.

Almost two-thirds of the suicides, like Polish-born Ofer, are immigrants from Europe. Another 20% are from African or Asian countries, while native-born Sabras, perhaps hardier than the rest, account for only 15% of those who take their own lives.

Organizations and People

what's new...

BY MIRIAM HERMAN

WEEKEND BRIEFS

Saturday night is fun time — Nostalgia buffs will no doubt enjoy the movie and social evening arranged by Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Brotherhood, starting at 8 with the film, **The Jazz Singer**, (the original), starring Al Jolson, followed by dancing. For tickets, call the synagogue office.

For gambling spirits there's a Las Vegas Night at B'nai Israel Beth David Congregation from 7:30 on. The door prize — a week for two in Las Vegas. What else?

Sunday's fare offers a mixture of goodies — From 2-5 p.m., a group called Hachnosas Kallah (welcome the bride) is hosting a tea at the home of Rebbitzen Judith Friedler, 32 Bayhampton Ct. This group helps young people from poor families get established. The tea is to set up a permanent fund for needy brides. Officers of the group are: Rebbitzen Friedler and Rene Reichman, honorary presidents; Hella Nussbaum, president; Goldie Reichman, honorary presidents; Hella Nussbaum, president; Goldie Anisfield, vice-president; Frances Grubner and Hessy Zolty, treasurers.

The annual Festival of Jewish School Choirs goes on stage at Beth Tzedec Synagogue at 2 p.m. Choirs from six schools will participate.

B'nei Akiva's Institute for Study of Zionism and Eretz Yisrael has scheduled two lectures under the heading **On the Road to the Establishment of the State of Israel**. This Sunday, Rabbi Morton Green of Hamilton's Adas Israel Congregation will discuss **The Holocaust**. On the 20th, Yerach Aron, Tel Aviv University representative in Toronto, will deal with **The Underground Movements**. This series on Israel runs to June 12. Many lectures will be accompanied by films. All sessions are at 8:30 p.m. at Ulpanat Orot, 4445 Bathurst St.

Distinguished author, educator and lecturer Shmuel Roshanski from Argentina will be the guest speaker at the meeting sponsored by the Yiddish Culture Council and the Congress Committee for Yiddish. His topic — **Soviet Russia — America, Chernovitz and Yiddish Literature**. That's at 8:30 p.m. at the Workmen's Circle Hall.

Also at 8:30, the annual general meeting of the Israel Medical Association of Canada will be addressed by Dr. Nathan Epstein, McMaster University professor of psychiatry, who will talk about his personal experiences vis-a-vis mental health in Israel. It takes place at the Zionist Centre.

SISTERHOOD INSTITUTE

The overall theme of B'nai Israel Beth David Sisterhood's annual institute on Tuesday, the 15th, is **New Awareness and New Possibilities for You.** It will be discussed under three headings — assertiveness, life choices and sexuality — by educators Etta Conner and Bertha Rubin, and social worker Judith Golden. The session runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For reservations, call 633-1694.

ISRAEL ON TV

Asher Rahav of the Israel Government Tourist office in Toronto tells us that a 30-second spot on Israel appears on the **Day Beat** program every weekday morning at 10 on CHCH-TV Channel 11. Try to catch it and let him know what you think of it — good, bad or otherwise. And when you tune in, you'll also get instructions about the draw on an all-expense paid trip to Israel. The tourist office number is 964-3784.

STUDENT CONFERENCE

Diaspora Rainbow...A Weekend of Jewish Rediscovery and Re-creation is what Hillel and Jewish Student Federation are calling their three-day gathering set for Feb. 17-20 at the Sheraton Brock Hotel in Niagara Falls. The conference is open to all Jewish students in Ontario.

STUDY IN ISRAEL

Kibbutz Kfar Blum in Upper Galilee has a school exchange program for Grade 10 students. The curriculum is recognized by the province of Ontario. Pinchas Rimon, the principal of the America-Israel Secondary School there, will be in Toronto next month to discuss the program. If you are interested, call Sandra Samuels at 485-3535 after 6:30 p.m., Sunday through Thursday.

SUNDAY DANCES FOR SINGLES

The Forty-fives and Up Club (ladies 40 and up), of the Labor Zionist Alliance, will be dancing to the music of the Norm Derrin band from 8:30 on at the LZA centre.

Also at 8:30, the University Graduate Club is having their dance party at Roehampton Hotel.

BB MEETING

The program of the Toronto Lodge B'nai B'rith meeting on Monday, the 14th, includes a showing of **The Oil Mighty Dollar**, a run-down of the Arab oil situation prepared by BB League for Human Rights. It takes place at 8:30 p.m. at 471 Lawrence Ave. West.

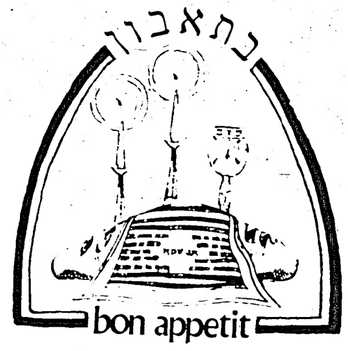
MAJOR ARTISTS SERIES

Beth Tzedec Congregation is following last year's successful Major Artists Series with another line-up of exciting concerts. The first one, next Sunday, the 20th, features a varied program of Jewish music with Suzanne Shulman, flute; Morry Kernerman, violin; Rivke Golani-Erdesz, viola; Daniel Domb, cello, and Avraham Galper, clarinet, plus the CBC Festival Chamber Orchestra conducted by Victor Feldbrill. This concert is in co-operation with the CBC. *The time is 8:30 p.m.*

LITURGICAL SERVICE

There's another treat in store for music lovers on Friday, the 18th. Holy Blossom Temple is presenting an entire liturgical service arranged for cantor, orchestra, choir and dance. The music was written by Bonia Shur, professor of liturgical arts at Hebrew Union College, who will conduct the orchestra and choir. Host and soloist is Holy Blossom Cantor Sheldon Merel. Services begin at 8:25 p.m.

Tranquility of American Colony Hotel offers little hint of its turbulent past



By MARCIA KRETZMER

JERUSALEM —

Once a kibbutz-style colony, run on collective lines by a group of Swedish and American Presbyterians in the 1890s, before that, a graceful mansion owned by a prosperous Arab lawyer, and since 1902 a hotel — the American Colony Hotel in East Jerusalem is one of the city's most distinguished lodges.

One wintry morning recently, I went to hear about its history from its present owner, Horatio Vester, son of one of the original settlers. Despite the bleakness of the day, cold by Jerusalem's standards, the hotel's courtyard garden, famous as a serene and sunny spot to linger over a cool drink or afternoon tea, looked inviting, with its trailing ivy and gernaiums, potted palms, and fruit heavy on the lemon tree.

Horatio Vester, whose appearance and diction would lead one to believe he had rarely set foot beyond the British Isles, is in fact British only by naturalization: "I was born in Jerusalem — as a Turkish subject," he told me.

He carried a Palestinian passport during Mandatory times, travelling to America for his education, and spent 35 years in England as a lawyer before returning to Jerusalem in 1960 to take over the management of the hotel.

"I was 60 years old and planning retirement then, but running the hotel has been a fascinating experience," said Vester, whose erect bearing and ready humor belie his years.

The tranquil atmosphere of the hotel, simply but gracefully furnished with Arab hangings, Oriental carpets and low copper tables, gives little hint of its turbulent past, when Allenby, Storrs, Lawrence of Arabia, Balfour and Churchill were frequent visitors.

The present owner's mother, Bertha Spafford Vester from Chicago, a remarkable woman, who was a leading figure in Jerusalem in Mandatory times, maintained welfare centres in the Old City in an attempt to alleviate the destitution and sickness in Jerusalem, especially among infants and mothers.

When typhus and smallpox ravaged the population in the First World War, the American Colony was in the forefront of efforts to relieve the distress, and also ran a soup kitchen feeding poverty-stricken Moslems, Jews and Christians. In 1948, under bombardment, the hotel ran a casualty clearing station.

The American Colony became a hotel at the suggestion of famous actor Peter Ustinov's grandfather. He himself ran a hotel in Jaffa which accommodated those who visited the Holy Land for a month at a time on Thomas Cook's Mediterranean cruises.

"Those were the days when one travelled with a parasol in one hand and a Baedeker in the other," recalled Vester. "Our guests used to come up to Jerusalem from Jaffa by carriage. It took eight hours — but it was faster than the train."

He remembers those days vividly: "Baron Ustinov's own story had its comic aspect, like so much that happens in this part of the world," he related.

"He was exiled from Russia by the Czar following his conversion to Lutheranism, and settled in Jaffa, joining the Templar colony of Lutherans there. However, when Russia declared war on Turkey, he deemed it his duty to rejoin his regiment. He started north on a horse — and was never heard of again."

Touring the hotel, Vester pointed out that it was laid out as a typical Moslem home of the last century, with the reception areas set off from the harem. The salon on the second floor is today the hotel lounge where visitors can order drinks or coffee.

Furnished in elegant Oriental style with a cupola at the centre of its blue-and-gold painted wooden ceiling, it certainly lives up to its reputation as the most beautiful room in Jerusalem. He told me that the original owner, a lawyer of some repute, had designed the room expressly to receive clients and arbitrate disputes.

Unlocking one lovely room after another — today, all is in use as hotel bedrooms — Vester showed me which had been the owner's, and which those of his four wives. "He gave his fourth wife two rooms as a mark of special affection," he said.

The hotel does not serve kosher food, but visitors who simply wish to drink in the uniqueness of this lovely and historical Jerusalem hotel may visit the second-floor drawing room for coffee, tea or drinks.

Drinks are also served in the bar, a deeply-vaulted cellar, and on a sunny day, winter or summer, a cool drink out in the enchanting garden is a memorable experience.

The hotel is located on the Nablus Road in East Jerusalem, near the American Consulate, and can be reached by taking the number 12 bus from The Street of the Prophets in downtown Jerusalem.

Here is a recipe given me by Vester, for a rich and elegant chocolate cake, a long-time specialty of the American Colony. The recipe also appears in **The Flavor of Jerusalem**, reviewed in a past column.

American Colony Chocolate-Almond Cake

8 eggs, separated
1 cup butter at room temperature
1/2 cup cocoa
1 cup confectioners' sugar
2 tsps. baking powder
1 1/4 cups unblanched ground almonds
1/2 cup toasted breadcrumbs

for filling and frosting
1/2 cup butter
1 1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
1/4 cup cocoa
2 tsps. rum
1/4 cup blanched almonds, halved and toasted

1. beat egg whites till stiff. In another bowl, combine yolks and butter. Separately, sift together cocoa, confectioners' sugar and baking powder then add to yolk mixture, mixing well. Now stir in almonds and breadcrumbs

2. fold egg whites into this mixture and pour cake batter into a 9" pan lined with greased foil. Bake 25 mins. till a toothpick inserted in cake tests clean. Cool in pan

3. cream ingredients for filling. When cake has cooled, turn out of pan and remove foil. Split it crosswise into three layers and reassemble with filling between the layers and on top. Decorate with toasted almonds. Serve somewhat chilled

* * * * * * * * * *

Shabbat Shalom!

...about people

Chief Rabbi of the Israel Defence Force, **Gen. Mordechai Piron**, will be in Toronto this Tuesday, the 15th, and will deliver an address for B'nei Akiva, 8:15 p.m. at Ulpanat Orot.

* * *

Major Yona Gazit

Another visitor from the Israel Defence Force this week will be **Major Yona Gazit**, director of the force's public relations office, who arrives on the 14th for a 10-day round of speaking engagements and public appearances for the UJA campaign. A number of meetings have been scheduled during his stay by the Business and Professions and other UJA divisions. The 30-year-old major will also address a UJA dinner at York University, sponsored by student canvassers and contributors.

* * *

Albert Freireich, the former director of education and youth at Beth Tzedec Congregation, has joined Bache Halsey Stuart as an account executive. After 25 years as a Jewish educator, he has left the field to join the world of stocks and bonds.

* * *

One of the two winners of the 1976 Chalmers Canadian Play Award was playwright **Larry Fineberg** who won for his play **Eve.** The Montreal-born writer shares the $5,000 prize with colleague **W.O. Mitchell**, whose winning play was **Back to Beulah**. The awards were presented by **Lieutenant-Governor Pauline McGibbon** at an official reception she hosted recently at Queen's Park.

* * *

With the cantors — **Louis Danto** of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue heads for warmer climes next weekend to participate in Sabbath services of Kneseth Israel Congregation in Miami Beach. He will conduct the Friday evening service on the 18th, and the Saturday morning service the next day. Then the following Sunday, the 27th, he will be featured in a concert of liturgical, Yiddish, Hebrew and operatic arias.... **Paul Sheldon** has been engaged as cantor of Stashover-Slipia Congregation. In addition to being secretary of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim, he will also continue his association with Temple Emanuel in Haverhill, Mass., for the High Holy Days only.

* * *

An announcement by **A. "Eph" Diamond**, president of the Toronto Chapter, and **Joseph Lunenfeld**, chairman of the Ontario Region, Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, reports the appointment of **David Fairbloom** as assistant director for Toronto and Ontario. He was with the Israel Bond organization for the past six years, responsible for new leadership development and general campaigning. With the Canadian Friends, he will assist director **Jack Jacobson** in intensified fund-raising in Toronto and Ontario.

* * *

This Monday at 8 p.m., pianist **Samuel Levitan** will have the pleasure of being part of a concert presenting his own compositions. The Royal Conservatory of Music has arranged the program, featuring their music students, several vocalists including the composer's wife, **Fanny Levitan**, violinist **Isidor Desser**, plus the Royal Conservatory Choir under the direction of **Roman Toi**. It all takes place at the Conservatory Concert Hall on Bloor Street West.

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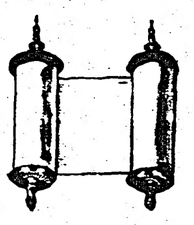
sparks from the torah



By RABBI MEIR GOTTESMAN

Parshat Yitro

Vayaar ha'am va'yanu'u...And the people saw and trembled....

You don't need a Ph.D. to be a good son. All you need is a DDE — Doctor of Derech Eretz, respect....

Once, a father and son had a dispute, so they went to Rabbi Isaac Feigenbaum of Warsaw for a **din Torah**. During the presentation of arguments, the son constantly spoke to the father insultingly, embarrassing him.

Suddenly the rabbi stood up. "Gentlemen, I'm sorry —but I can't be a judge in your case. When I hear a son speak to a father with such **chutzpah**, I feel to him like a personal enemy. And it's forbidden to be a judge in an enemy's din Torah...." (Fun Unzer Alter Oitzer)

But how can you make knaidlech out of sand — how can we squeeze Yiddische nachas from our children unless we fill them with the right ingredients ourselves? Consider...Moses warned the Jews — "**pokaid avon avot all banim**...G-d visits the sins of the fathers on their children...." The Jews were angry. "What is this, musical chairs? If we do avairos, why should our children have to suffer? Why doesn't He take it out on us?"

But the Ribono shel Olam shook His head. "Listen, Yiddlech — what do you think? You're going to eat traifus in some Chinese restaurant and it's not going to affect your kids? If you can break one law, what's going to stop them from breaking two? If you hardly ever walk into a shul, what's to stop them from walking into a church — and marrying there? Don't blame Me — your children are your own shadows...." (Rabbi Moshe Haftez)

Only dead men can't turn over — every Jew can change his ways before it's too late. Ah, but someone has to care...

...someone has to care enough to be **m'karev**, draws other Jews to believing in G-d and keeping His commandments. Every Jew must be a missionary — to other Jews. It's strange...when the Israelites were organizing in the desert, G-d told Moses to appoint **"saray alafim saray mayot**...captains of thousands, of hundreds, of 50s and of 10s...." Moses wondered — what are we, the boy scouts? Why do we need so many leaders over us?

But G-d explained, "Every Jew has the power to influence others....Some can influence thousands to keep mitzvahs, others 100, others just a handful. But every Jew is a little Moses — with a responsibility for the next Jew's soul. No one can say — 'as long as I eat my own gefilte fish it's enough'...." (Adapted from Rabbi Nachman of Braslav)

We Jews are in great trouble. How many urgent calls do rabbis get — "my son is going to marry a non-Jew in six weeks — do something! My daughter has run off after Rev. Moon, or has been seduced into some Christian sect — help!"

But what can one person do alone, at the last minute? On Sunday night, Feb. 20th, 8:00 p.m. at Beth Sholom synagogue, we are going to hold The Great Jewish Revival, featuring internationally acclaimed Rebbitzen Esther Jungreis. It will be a rally to bring together all concerned Jews who care about the survival of themselves and their children as Jews. Every reader of this column is urged to come out and take part. If even one soul is saved, it will be worth it.

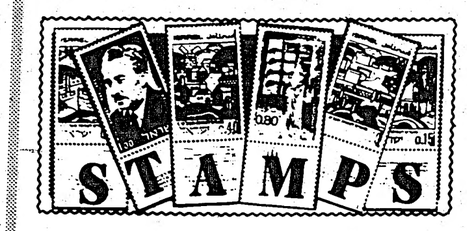
After all, it's not easy reaching people. A young man said to his fiance, "I'm not rich; I don't own a yacht and a lot of fancy cars like Herschel Cohen, but I love you, Beverly."

"I love you too, dear," she replied, "but tell me more about Herschel Cohen...."

May G-d have a Yiddische nachas from us. Shabbat shalom.

Please note our current Sparks From the Torah TV schedule: Metro Cable - alternate Mondays at 9 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8 p.m.; Willowdowns Cable - Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m.; York and Keeble - Thursdays at 10 p.m.

Israel Services announce new issues for the year



By CHAIM YEHUDA

At this time of year, the Israeli Philatelic Services announces its program for the ensuing year from April 1977 to March 1978. The list does not include denominations because it is not possible to determine postal rates so far in advance as a result of the rampant inflation in Israel.

The following issues will complete the current year's program: **February 1977:** Three issues — a set of three stamps showing children's drawings, a set of three arts stamps, and a single entitled volunteering.

The philatelic services announce the following issues and state that "a new list, indicating the denominations of the stamps, will be sent...as soon as possible":

April, 1977: Three issues — a single for Memorial Day, a single in honor of the Sabbath, and a set of three stamps with ancient musical instruments.

June, 1977: Three issues — a set of three stamps for the 10th Maccabiah, singles for the Petah Tikvah Centenary and the Zionist Organization of America convention.

August, 1977: Three issues — a set of four festival stamps entitled Biblical Mothers, a single showing the Pelletron Accelerator at the Weizmann Institute of Science, and a set of three stamps for the police, frontier police, and civil defence.

October, 1977: Two issues — a set of three or four stamps with trains and a single for the Nahal Youth Corps.

December, 1977: Three issues — three or four stamps entitled Architecture III, three or four stamps with sea shells, and a single commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first Hebrew printshop at Zefat.

February, 1978: Two issues — three stamps as part of the sixth definitive series and three arts stamps.

It is interesting to note that a previous Petah Tikvah stamp was issued on Aug. 10, 1949. This stamp depicts the well of Petah Tikvah with the added inscription on the side tab, "Dug by the founders of the 'Mother of the Colonies' 70 years ago".

Students celebrate prisoner's birthday

TORONTO —

One hundred and fifty students celebrated the birthday of a Prisoner of Conscience at the University of Toronto last week.

They signed birthday cards and contributed quarters for the postage required to send Yacov Vinarov their greetings. Vinarov, 23, was sentenced in August of 1975 to three years in prison.

After being expelled from university, the army conscripted him. He claimed his conscription was invalid because the order was issued after he had applied to emigrate to Israel.

MP Herb Gray (L, Windsor West), who 'adopted' Vinarov, sent a telegram of support.

Ruth Rayman, of the Canadian Jewish Congress, said the Toronto Youth Council for Jews in the USSR, which sponsored the event, would inquire of the Soviet ambassador whether Vinarov had received the birthday cards.

Meanwhile, the Toronto Group of 35 demonstrated at York University on behalf of another Prisoner of Conscience, Alexander Feldman, who has been imprisoned for the last two years.

The women, headed by Barbara Glass, distributed a biography of Feldman to students and explained the reason for his captivity.

Herzog won't quit UN post

NEW YORK [JTA] —

Chaim Herzog, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, has decided not to quit his post in order to run for office in the May 17 general elections.

Herzog was considering in the last few months the possibility of resigning his ambassadorship to seek a seat in the Knesset. He was reported to have discussed this matter with the Labor Party and the Democratic Movement for Change while visiting Israel last month.

But Herzog explained that he decided not to resign because he does not feel "it would be right for me to leave my post at the UN at this critical stage of serious developments in the Mideast."

He left last week for Israel to take part in Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's discussions with the Israeli government.

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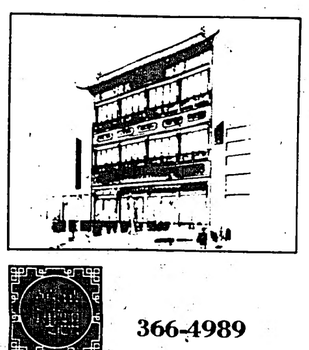
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(David Groskind photo)

Rose Miskin, Judith Tankus and Rebecca Landau (from left), work on new classification system of Toronto Jewish Public Library.

Library updates filing system

By ROCHELLE CARR

TORONTO —

Those wishing to do research in Toronto on Jewish related topics will now find it easier as a result of a major change in the city's Jewish Public Library.

Rebecca Landau, who holds a Master of Library Science from Pratt Institute, was brought to the library to change its filing system to the Library of Congress Classification.

According to Ms. Landau, it is used more by research libraries, such as the University of Toronto, than other classification methods such as the Dewey system. She has been working on the new classification system since September, 1975 and, to date, has catalogued approximately half the books in the library.

The library is now attempting to make people aware of the change and to encourage university students, or anyone else doing research, to use the library for that purpose.

A growing number of university students are taking advantage of the change to do papers on such topics as how Jews are portrayed in literature, the history of Russian Jews in certain periods, Jewish women, anti-Semitism in Dickens and so on.

Now, instead of general sections such as Israel and Zionism, subject headings are broken down more specifically so that, for example, all books on the Yom Kippur War will be grouped together. Although each book is placed permanently in one spot on the shelf, the card catalogue contains entries under all the appropriate title headings for books that deal with more than one subject.

For the bilingual person (Hebrew and English), books in the two languages, dealing with the same topic, are integrated on the same shelf. In the card catalogue, there is an English transliteration of the Hebrew books in addition to a separate Hebrew author and title catalogue section.

Basically, what all this means is that it is easier for the researcher to find a topic in one location. The casual reader, explained Ms. Landau, also benefits from this system.

In browsing through the history section, for example, the reader moves alphabetically through a section on Jews in Australia to Jews in Brazil to Jews in Canada and so on.

In addition to the new cataloguing of books, the back issues of most major periodicals and newspapers in Yiddish, Hebrew and English have been arranged in a similar convenient manner for those doing research.

All of these changes have come about under the direction of the library's executive director, Rabbi Michael Celinker.

Students stage Wiesel play

TORONTO —

Ani Maamin, a philosophical play by author Elie Wiesel set against the background of the Holocaust, will be performed this month by a group of York University students.

The play, examining the theme of spiritual faith in an historical perspective, spans Jewish history and features biblical characters. It addresses itself to the central question: Has the Holocaust changed our conception of God?

Producer and director of the Wiesel drama is a second-year York film major Jeff Cipin, who first read the play 2½ years ago.

"I'm not out to shock people by only recreating Holocaust images," says the young director. "I'm more interested in intellectual questions the play raises...Wiesel is very serious and his work demands a serious interpretation."

Reflecting on the growing indifference in certain sectors of the Jewish community, Cipin adds: "Have we done enough since the Holocaust to regain our links with Judaism and God? Clearly, not only the Nazis are on trial in **Ani Maamin** (literally, I believe), but we are."

An all-woman cast is featured in the performances, scheduled from Sunday, Feb. 20, through to Wednesday, the 23rd: Aviva Bushèikin, Wendy Berner, Shira Bernholtz, Jane Enkin and Cheryl Zimmerman — all full-time York students.

Handling stage and lighting design is Ron Ritch, a theatre design student at the university, who, along with Cipin, is an Edmonton native.

Tickets are available at S101 Ross at York, and the Negev Bookstore, 3509 Bathurst. Price is $2.50.

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Feb. 27, 1977

"Is there a unique dimension to Jewish bible study?"
by Moshe Greenberg, Professor of Bible, Hebrew University, Jerusalem
Beth Tzedec Congregation, Mezzanine Hall, 1700 Bathurst St., 8 p.m.

Feb. 28, 1977

"The United States and the creation of the state of Israel: Wilson, Roosevelt & Truman."
by Selig Adler, Professor of American History, State University of New York at Buffalo
York University, Administrative Studies Bldg., Rm. 033, Keele St. and Steeles Ave. Campus, 10 a.m.

"Reflections on Job: can piety survive a reasonless calamity?"
by Professor Moshe Greenberg, York University, Stedman Lecture Hall F, 12 noon.

"Can we learn for the future from the last two hundred years of Jewish experience in North America?"
by Professor Selig Adler, York University, Stedman Lecture Hall A, 8 p.m.

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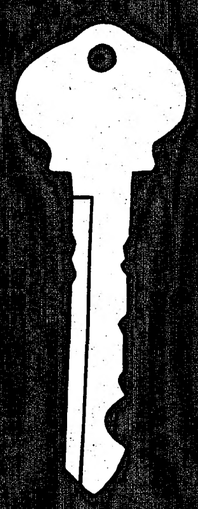

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Ontario Premier Bill Davis, along with Eddie Goodman (right), look at model of new buildings under construction at Boys Town, Jerusalem. Pointing out features of BTJ is David Amittai. A film report on Boys Town will be featured on the Fraser Kelly Report on CFTO, Saturday, Feb. 12 at 8 p.m

Israel must shun threat of supernationalism

By HARVEY WARREN

TORONTO — Supernationalism is a danger Israel must avoid, Prof. Alan Davies told a Toronto audience recently.

Davies, a United Church minister, said he was troubled "by the tendency of some Jewish theologians to interpret the foundation of Israel and also the survival of the Six Day War as sort of holy events."

"Fackenheim tends to do this," he charged, referring to U of T philosophy professor Emil Fackenheim, an ardent Zionist.

Davies is an assistant professor with the University of Toronto's department of religious studies and was delivering a lecture to a B'nai Israel Beth David adult education group on the attitudes of German churches to the Nazi phenomenon, when the course of discussion shifted to Israel during question period.

"One has to watch the tendency to somehow equate events in history with divine providence," Davies cautioned.

In his lecture, the professor stressed how such a tendency, as well as alienation, class conflict and ethnocentricity were proto-racist. Later, replying to a question, he said, "any nation is susceptible to these dangers, so Israel can't be an exception to that."

Quebec is no exception either, according to Davies, a former Montrealer. He said there was a close parallel between Quebec today and the Germany which seethed under the Weimar Republic and spawned Nazism.

The separatist movement has its roots in alienation, the minister explained, and "cultural symbols become the symbols in which one expresses his alienation."

In a certain sense it is a class conflict, a cultural conflict which, he said, has a strong romantic appeal to intellectuals.

"I'm not going to say the separatist movement is racist," he said, "but then...there is always a close connection between racism and nationalism."

In an interview before his address, Davies told The CJN that racism is "much more than the ethnic tension which we have with us and always will."

Racism is more than ethnocentric prejudice, he remarked, it is a 19th century concept with "images and patterns of thought associated with culture."

Someone who sees race as the key to history, he said, "is the real racist."

Breira has 'anti-Israel vibrations'

WASHINGTON — Feminist leader Betty Friedan recently demanded that Robert Loeb, executive director of Breira, explain where the organization's funds come from, and sent him scurrying from the room. It happened at an informal social gathering.

Ms. Friedan, who registered strong protest when "Third World" women and their anti-Israel sympathizers walked out on Leah Rabin at the 1975 Mexico City feminist conference, said she didn't care to discuss the Loeb episode.

However, she could say that she had read Rael Jean Isaac's pamphlet, "Breira Counsel of Judaism," and had been impressed with it. She said that it bore out her impression that the organization had distinct "anti-Israel vibrations."

She said she hated "manipulation" by both the Old and New Left and was quite familiar with it.

"The Breira people have been courting me a lot," she said. "I didn't understand what they were after. At first I thought they were connected with the Writers and Artists for Peace in the Middle East with which I have an affiliation."

Ms. Friedan said she told someone at the gathering that she had gotten the pamphlet from Joel Carmichael, editor of Midstream, and was informed by a guest who had not read it that it should be discounted.

It was suggested that the group might have been after her name on a letterhead since it had been successful in getting the names of other prominent figures with anti-New Left credentials such as Irving Howe and Nathan Glazer. She agreed it was a possibility.

"I think there is so much Jewish self-hatred in some of these young people," she said. "And so much romanticism about the Arabs. Why do they think of the Arab countries, with all of their oil wealth, should be the only ones entitled to nationalism?

"Why do they turn against the need of the Jewish people to survive and express their nationhood? I think it's all thinly disguised anti-Semitism."

After Loeb and Ms. Friedan left the meeting, which was attended by several prominent writers, others at the gathering asked Arthur Samuelson, editor of Breira's publication Inter-Change, where the money was coming from. He said it could be told, but not by him.

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Second, make sure your business's premises and working conditions conform to the safety and health regulations set forth in The Construction Safety Act, The Industrial Safety Act and The Mining Act (Part IX). That's as much in your own interest as in your employees', because safe, healthy premises and working conditions make good business sense.

Third, always hire qualified people for any job openings, regardless of race, colour, religion, sex or national background. The Human Rights Code insists upon this, but you probably do it already, because it's just smart business to hire the person with the most talent and ability. After all, the better the employee, the better the job gets done.

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Congregation plans parallel Israeli community

TORONTO [Staff] — Beth Tzedec Congregation plans to establish an organizational presence in Israel, or, as Rabbi Benjamin Friedberg puts it, "a parallel community."

The program's objective is not only aliyah, says Ben Zion Shapiro, "Beth Tzedec in Israel's" chairman. "Another question is: what can Beth Tzedec do to assist its members to work out their own personal relationship with Israel?"

Though the synagogue is not in the travel business, it claims it can help its members find accommodation, and interesting and rewarding voluntary work in Israel; arrange 'off-the-tour-map' encounters there; plan ulpan schedules, and connect them with 'real life' in the Jewish state.

Beth Tzedec also says it can help its members — as well as others not affiliated with the synagogue — arrange their retirement there, and direct students to high school and university programs.

Billed as the only synagogue program of its kind in North America, "Beth Tzedec in Israel's" organizers say the project has

Rabbi Ben Friedberg

gone beyond the conceptual stage. Two weeks ago, the organizing committee sent out several thousand flyers to its members to test the idea. In the summer, it is hoped that at least 50 Beth Tzedec congregants will assemble in Israel to officially inaugurate the project.

Ben Lappin, a Canadian-born, Israeli academic, lent "Beth Tzedec in Israel" some of its inspiration. Late last year, he delivered a series of lectures on Israel and the Diaspora. The response was enthusiastic. Listeners wanted to know how they could better relate to Israel.

Although Lappin's lectures sparked the enthusiasm, it was common knowledge around the corridors of the synagogue that Rabbi Friedberg was a keen supporter of a Beth Tzedec spiritual and physical presence in Israel.

"It was a long-standing dream," he said in an interview last week.

In a few weeks' time, Rabbi Friedberg is flying to Israel to set up a "Beth Tzedec in Israel" committee in Jerusalem. It is anticipated that some or all of the 50 former Torontonians who used to belong to the congregation will lend a hand.

If the local response is favorable, Rabbi Friedberg says the committee will rent a hall in Jerusalem. And, should it develop into something bigger, a Beth Tzedec community centre will be created and staff hired.

Committee members were unable to say what the cost of the project will be. "It all depends on the response," said Ben Zion Shapiro.

Though aliyah is just one of the objectives of "Beth Tzedec in Israel", it is still a very important component of the project.

Says Rabbi Friedberg: "Aliyah shouldn't be the sole responsibility of Zionist groups and Israel. Communities should also take an active part in promoting it."

Lappin, who has lived in Israel for the last seven years, notes: "The formality and bureaucracy associated with aliyah stifles people, and this is what we're trying to get away from. There is a need for a community in Israel with which the immigrant can identify. The current aliyah process is too impersonal."

"Beth Tzedec in Israel" is an independent program and its organizers have not been in touch with either Israel or the Jewish Agency, says Rabbi Friedberg.

Despite entry into charter field, El Al maintains opposition to plan

By DANIEL SAVILLE

LOD — The recent Israeli tourism "bombshell" set off by the decision of El Al to enter the charter business has resulted in some rethinking among the growing number of charter operators to Israel.

Despite its rather dramatic and somewhat unanticipated action, El Al has emphasized that it has not in any way changed its long-time stand against charters to Israel, and its opinion that uncontrolled charters would not greatly contribute to the country's tourism development.

Although charter traffic is not expected to bring more than about 50,000 tourists in 1977, concern is felt here that most of these visitors would have been El Al passengers.

This potential threat to its existence prompted El Al to protect its essential, long-time traditional 50% share of all air traffic to and from Israel.

El Al has revealed initial plans for its new subsidiary, approval of which is awaited shortly from the government. The national airline will place at the disposal of the subsidiary a specially refitted Boeing 707 adapted for charter operations. Additional aircraft would be made available when required.

The first markets to be developed by the subsidiary will be Scandinavia and Germany and it is reported that already contracts have been signed for a long series of charter flights from both countries to Ben Gurion Airport and also direct flights to Eilat.

The charter subsidiary will specialize both in passenger and cargo markets and be available for participants to international congresses and conferences and other events as well. New cargo sources will also be developed.

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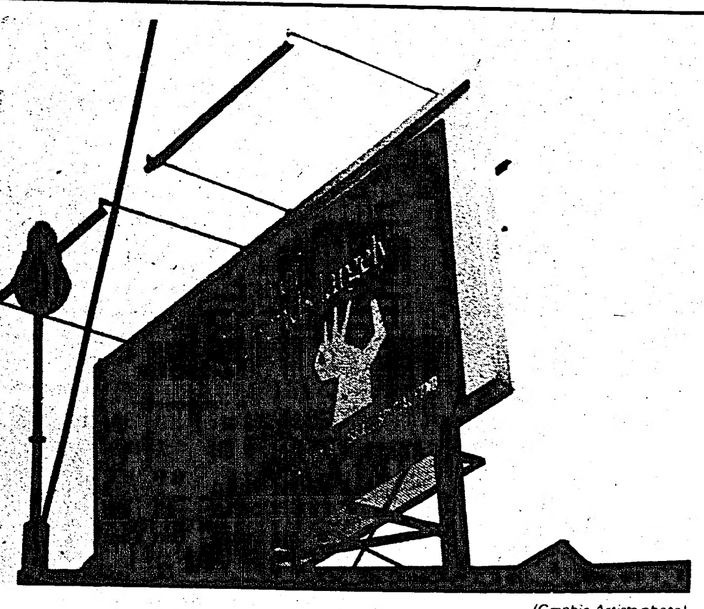

(Graphic Artists photo)

Eight billboards publicizing the United Jewish Appeal–Israel Special Fund campaign, have been placed in strategic locations throughout Toronto. The one here is at Spadina and Richmond Street.

South African, Rhodesian Jews organize a new association

From left, Alan Sandler, Ronnie Roth and Hilly Cohen.

TORONTO — Three new Canadians have organized the Southern African Jewish Association in Canada at a meeting at Baycrest Terrace last week which attracted a turnout of 340 former South African and Rhodesian Jews.

The three founding members, Ronnie Roth, Alan Sandler and Hilly Cohen, were elected president, vice-president and treasurer, respectively.

"We want to start an adopt-a-family program and to help with jobs, accommodations, education and other areas," said Roth. "We have already arranged a lecture series to orient our members to the local Jewish agencies and organizations, so that any of them who want to get involved in community work will have an opportunity to make a choice from a variety of options."

Roth stressed the fact that the association was established to help Southern Africans who are Canadian residents and that it is not meant to operate on a permanent basis. "We don't want to form our own community. We want to filter our people into existing groups and organizations."

Roth has had enquiries from South Africans now living in Vancouver and Sault Ste. Marie regarding the association. "We want to benefit from an exchange of information, which could eventually develop into a nationwide setup."

Two outstanding scholars to address conference

TORONTO — The first Conferences on Jewish Life and Education, sponsored by York University's faculty of arts program in Religious studies and faculty of education Judaic studies option, in cooperation with the Board of Jewish Education and the Toronto Jewish Congress, will feature two outstanding scholars at the end of this month.

The conferences, to be held on Feb. 27 and 28, will feature Moshe Greenberg, internationally acclaimed Bible scholar, currently professor of Bible at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and Selig Adler, distinguished service professor of American history at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

The conferences are intended to broaden perspectives of students in Judaic studies and to provide the community with an opportunity to consider various aspects of Jewish education, organizers of the conferences said.

Prof. Greenberg will address a public meeting on Sunday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m., at Beth Tzedec Congregation, Bathurst Street. His topic will be: "Is There a Unique Dimension to Jewish Bible Study?"

On Monday, Feb. 28, three lectures, open to the general public as well as to university students and faculty, will be held at the Steeles campus of York University, Keele Street. At 10 a.m. Prof. Adler will speak on "The United States and the Founding of the State of Israel: Wilson, Roosevelt and Truman." His lecture will take place in Room 033, Administrative Studies Building.

At noon, Prof. Greenberg will lecture on "Reflections on Job: Can Piety Survive a Reasonless Calamity?" His talk will be delivered in Stedman Lecture Hall F. Prof. Adler, speaking at 8 p.m. in Stedman Lecture Hall A, will examine the question, "Can We Learn for the Future from the Last 200 Years of Jewish Experience in North America?"

Both professors Greenberg and Adler have outstanding reputations as leading scholars in their chosen fields of study and research. Greenberg, formerly Ellis professor of Hebrew and Semitic languages and literatures at the University of Pennsylvania, served as chairman of the Bible department at the Hebrew University from 1972 to 1976. He is the author of several well-known works on the Bible, including **Understanding Exodus**, and an abridged translation of Ezekial Kaufmann's monumental **Religion of Israel**. He has also written a textbook, **Introduction to Hebrew**, and many articles on biblical themes and the teaching of Bible.

Selig Adler has written extensively in various fields of 20th century American history. Author of major articles in historical and popular journals, **Dr. Adler has also written** several important works of history, including **The Isolationist Impulse and the Uncertain Giant: American Foreign Policy Between the Wars.**

He is now at work on a new study tentatively entitled **Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Near East.** He is very active in the Jewish community of Buffalo and is the co-author of a history of the Jews in Buffalo, **From Ararat to Suburbia.**

The York conferences are part of the new option at York's faculties of arts and education for the training of teachers of Jewish studies for the Jewish and public schools. The program is supported in part by the Toronto Jewish Congress and is being offered in cooperation with the Board of Jewish Education.

Coordinating the Conferences on Jewish Life and Education are Michael Brown, coordinator of Hebrew Studies at York, and Rabbi Irwin E. Witty, director, Board of Jewish Education.

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Theatrical legend pens play

theatre

By JENIVA BERGER

Basya Hunter. The name is legend among the Toronto acting community. If you came out of the ranks of young performing talent in the '50s without having been taught somewhere along the line by Ms. Hunter, you've obviously left a gap in your education.

With a marvelous smile that brackets each conversation, Basya Hunter acknowledges her portion in Toronto's theatrical history with a non-plussed, "Well, I've been around for a long time."

For most of that time, the name of Basya Hunter has been synonymous with teaching, but for the last four years, the former Russian-born New Yorker has been preoccupied with writing a drama about the 16th century German scholar, Johannes Reuchlin. **Johannes and the Talmud** goes on the boards at the Tarragon Theatre starting Feb. 19 under Bill Glassco's direction.

Reuchlin represents a departure for Ms. Hunter. It's the first play she's written that she hasn't directed ("I'm too emotionally involved"), but then departures have always been the spice of life for the lady whose determination is camouflaged by a gentle and unpresspossessing manner.

As a seven-year-old slum urchin, she began to do plays on the sidewalks of east New York light years ahead of the 1960s new wave of street theatre. As a very young woman she became a student and devotee of Maria Ouspenskaya from the Moscow Art Theatre when silly plays and stylized acting was standard Broadway fare.

Basya Hunter — author of 'Johannes and the Talmud'

And at the age of 18, when most actresses scarcely wandered beyond the lights of 42nd Street, Ms. Hunter was in the Soviet Union pursuing the ideals of Stanislavski when she was accepted into the Moscow State Jewish Theatre by the great actor-director, Michoels.

Her love affair with Russian theatre came to an abrupt halt when Michoels was liquidated. She had already met and married Peter Hunter, chairman of the Youth League of Anti-Fascism in Canada. They moved to Toronto in 1937.

"When I came," she recalls, "I was rather shocked. There were two realities: an abundance of pragmatism, and the complete cultural wasteland of Toronto." She called Holy Blossom Temple for a job, and in conjunction with her escalating teaching responsibilities there (she became its educational director and principal of the religious school), planted the seeds of a drama group which was to become The Temple Players.

"The first play I did was Elmer Rice's **A New Life**, and suddenly the group blossomed. We did things that mattered. Paton's **Cry, The Beloved Country**, which illuminated apartheid, and Miller's **The Crucible**, to fight McCarthyism."

By that time, Basya Hunter's reputation as a teacher had already reached the ears of some CBC friends and she found herself deluged with pupils, among them, Toby Robins, John Drainie, and Ted Kotcheff. "I had close to 60 students, and from then on, I never budged from teaching."

Until three years ago, Basya Hunter taught at Ryerson, and it was there while researching material for a play she was writing on Solzhenitsyn that she stumbled upon the story of Johannes Reuchlin.

The idea of a Christian scholar who was brought to Inquisition in the 16th century because he defended the teachings in the Talmud fascinated her. Thus began a feverish search to find material and references.

The quest was nearly fruitless until she discovered the German author, Max Brod, the first man to write about Reuchlin. That he had to be completely translated from the German was a small blessing since many of the other works were in the original Latin.

Eventually the play took roots and Basya became a member of Tarragon's Playwright's Workshop under the guidance of its dramaturge, Bena Schuter. "Her care was important," says Ms. Hunter, who adds with gratitude in her voice "but it was Bill's (Glassco) devotion to the show and to the whole theme that made it for me. He'd call and say, 'I'm living with your people, Basya.' The sensitivity was mind-boggling."

Israel Nesher Puppets provide an evening of sheer delight

music

By RICK KARDONNE

A little girl who appeared to be only five years old cried at the end of the Israel Nesher Puppets production of **King Solomon and the Bee** on Jan. 15 at Holy Blossom Temple. Why? Because the show was over.

There could have been no truer indication of the success of this puppet show. The four-foot puppets by Sylvia and Yair Nesher were exquisitely beautiful, whether they represented actual biblical characters (such as a stately King Solomon or a glamorous Queen of Sheba) or whimsical fantasies (such as the bee or elfish eunuchs).

There was a true sense of fashion design, as well as artistic character portrayal on the faces of the puppets. And their manual manipulation was flawless.

Even though the manipulators were visible on stage, they quickly seemed to fade into the background. The puppets came to life.

King Solomon and the Bee, which closed the concert, was the most effective segment. Not only was it visually beautiful (although simply conceived, but there was also considerable taped English dialogue between Solomon and Sheba to provide a feeling of true dramatic interplay.

Narrator Yair Nesher joined in this dramatic action, so that he was an active participant.

In the opening half, **King Solomon's Daughter**, the puppets and other visual devices (such as the ship, the elephant which brings in the rejected Persian prince and the chupah in the closing scene) were even more artistically vivid, and this was strikingly effective.

The background Oriental-Israeli music was truly beautiful. What little taped dialogue there was was in Hebrew; I just hope that most of the children attending this show knew enought Hebrew to understand it.

Aside from that, most of the story-line was carried by lecture-style English-language narrative by Yair Nesher. And, when he asked everyone to join in the wedding song at the end, at which he held up signs portraying the Hebrew words written in English letters, everybody, young and old, enthusiastically joined in; some of the children were shaking tambourines which Yair had distributed for the occasion.

Yair Nesher's recitation of Bialik poems to slides of rural Israel, was unfortunately not as effective because the poems had little relationship to the scenic slides; and at least one of them, about an unemployable luftmensch, seemed out of place in the atmosphere of whimsical yet elegantly beautiful fantasy which was so superbly conveyed by the Nesher Puppets themselves.

All in all, however, the evening was a sheer delight, and I felt so glad that Yair Nesher demonstrably expressed his gratitude to the audience, which he termed as being the warmest he has encountered on his tour so far. The warm ovation was so richly deserved.

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LeisurePleasures

By VIVIENNE MUHLING 481–6434

A Tribute to Calder, Gallery Estee's *current exhibition is the first Toronto showing of the maître's work since his death last November. It is an important event, both because of the joyous artistry of these celebrated graphics (some of them really large) and because every Calder is now virtually a collector's treasure. On view 11 – 5, Tues. – Sat. at the* **Estee Gallery, 198-1/2 Davenport Road, 964–7613.**

Prints From Open Studio, *an AGO-mounted exhibition, now at* **Galerie Scollard,** *includes works by 11 artists from across Canada. All participate in a Toronto print-making shop, equipped for many print media, each working independently. This exhibition reflects the high artistic standards and variety of imagery and techniques of those involved. Tues. – Sat., 11 – 6 at* **Galerie Scollard, 96 Scollard Street, 967–7480.**

Last call to see **Gallery M's** *outstanding* **Japanese Graphics** *exhibition. Many people are emulating U.S. collectors who are now investing in these. Sharon Merkur is re-ordering from Japan. If there is a red sticker on your favorite, she may just be able to get another of the edition. Let her know before closing, February 16. Open Tues. – Sat., 10:30 – 5:30.* **Gallery M is at 1795 Avenue Road, 781–3150.**

The Van S Gallery *will delight those who enjoy direct communication with the artist. If, en route to or from Kensington Market, you climb the unprepossessing stairs, you'll find* **Con Van Suchtelin's** *oils hung most pleasingly in his comfortable, airy studio. From 2 p.m. – 6 p.m., Wed. – Sat., he will gladly discuss his mostly figurative work with you.* **The Gallery Van S, 460 Spadina Avenue, 925–8070.**

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Johannes And The Talmud *opens at* **The Tarragon** *Feb. 19 with previews Feb. 17 & 18. Bill Glassco directs* **Basya Hunter's** *play that uses Johannes Reuchlin's 1516 ordeal as a base to explore the roots of anti-Semitism. Reuchlin angered the inquisition by advising Talmud study as beneficial to Christian scholars. Get your group together for this event.* **Tarragon Theatre, 30 Bridgeman Ave., 531–1827.**

Six Characters In Search Of An Author *is* **Toronto Arts Productions'** *next presentation. Kurt Reis directs* **Pirandello's** *masterpiece in which characters from an unfinished play discourse with rehearsing actors. This great play that embraces comedy/tragedy/farce, opens 7:30 p.m. Feb. 16 (previews 14 & 15). Seats $3 –$8. For times and reservations, phone Box Office,* **St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. E., 366–7723.**

Sunday's your last chance to see **This Side Of The Rockies** *at the* **Factory Theatre Lab.** *It's a most intriguing play by one of Canada's most talented playwrights, Bryan Wade. This semi-mystical adventure story is directed by Eric Steiner, played by well-known, accomplished Toronto actors. See it 8:30 p.m. Fri., Sat. or Sun. ($4) or pay-what-you-can 2:30 Sun.* **Factory Theatre Lab, 207 Adelaide St. E., 864–9971.**

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MONTREAL

AROUND THE TOWN
By JANICE ARNOLD

HUMAN RIGHTS

The Canadian Jewish Congress delegates at a recent meeting in Ottawa with Ambassador **Yvon Beaulne**, the Canadian representative of the Commission on Human Rights at the UN, proposed that not only the rights of individuals should be protected, but the rights of groups as well. **Dr. Samuel Lewin** of Montreal and **Rabbi Jordan Pearlson** of Toronto pointed to the violation of basic freedoms suffered by Soviet Jews, and the religious discrimination uncovered in **Irwin Cotler**'s report on the Arab boycott. The all-day session between the ambassador and several other non-governmental organizations served as a guide in preparing the Canadian contribution at the forthcoming meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights.

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ROSE IN OTTAWA

Congress Executive Director **Alan Rose** met Defence Minister **Barney Danson** in Ottawa to discuss the humanitarian division of the Helsinki Final Act. The same day Rose conferred with **Joanne Hoople**, executive director of the Canadian Association in Support of the Native Peoples, of which Congress is a supporting member, and addressed the Young Leadership of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council.

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PIONEER WOMEN

The new national executive director of Canadian Pioneer Women is **Sara Hazan**, wife of **Albert**, who is the new director of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Foundation. Mrs. Hazan succeeds **Ida Ungar.**

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VOLUNTEERS

The Hillel Foundation has launched a campaign to recruit volunteers to help the elderly with shopping, odd jobs or just friendly visiting. Those interested should call **Laura Smith** at 845-9957.

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JOB PLANNING

Jewish Vocational Services in conjunction with Hillel will hold three workshops on career development on the evenings of the last three Wednesdays in February.

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FLANCER AT SBC

A retrospective exhibition of the paintings of local artist **Ludwig Flancer** is being held at the Saidye Bronfman Centre until March 11. Now almost 77, the Polish-born barber's works have been shown on 10 occasions since 1944 in the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and, at Expo, Flancer was chosen to represent the New Canadians who had contributed to Canadian culture.

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NEW DEADLINE

The deadline has been extended to Feb. 21 from Feb. 11 for submission of works to the First Saidye Bronfman Centre Biennale for Quebec Artists April 14-May 13.

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LAVAL ART 77

The YM-YWHA of the Laval Jewish Community Centre will host Art 77, its third annual exhibition and sale of fine art and handicrafts, from Saturday evening April 23 through April 25.

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YOUTH PROGRAM

Applications are now being accepted for the 28 trips to Israel for young people organized this year by the youth & hechalutz department of the Canadian Zionist Federation, director **Yudke Grossman** announced. Among the wide variety of programs offered, some stress kibbutz life, others travel. Many of the college programs include credit courses. All groups will spend time in Jerusalem.

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GROUP HOME

Jewish Family Services is establishing a group home for the religious elderly that will house nine residents. A couple has been found to run it, but a site and interim funding for the home are lacking.

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FIRST WOMAN

Muriel Kaplan has become the first woman to hold a seat on the Westmount city council in its 103-year history. The wife of businessman **Sam Kaplan**, she was briefly the central figure in the dispute over quota representation for Jews on the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal in 1972. Her appointment as the Westmount board's representative that year made a total of six Jewish board members, one more than provincial law of the time allowed. Another board member resigned to make room for Mrs. Kaplan.

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JCRC REPORT

The first two recommendations of the Joint Community Relations Committee's report on Quebec are that a Jewish community representative be established in Quebec City and that a new French-language publication be sent to key opinion-makers. The 30-year-old organization, co-sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith, now includes representation from AJCS.

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FAIT FRANCAIS

Rosetta Elkin and **Jack Gottheil**, co-chairmen of Le Fait Francais, have asked AJCS to make it one of their priority programs. Now seven years old, it is one of the pioneer groups in seeking to strengthen relations between Jews and French-Canadians.

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QUEBEC TODAY

A community-wide meeting of synagogue leadership organized by the Synagogue Council and religious affairs department of Congress will be held Feb. 22 at the Shaar Hashomayim synagogue. The realities of Quebec today will be discussed. Guest speaker is **Alan Rose.**

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BILINGUAL LODGE

The first bilingual lodge of B'nai B'rith District 22 will be formally installed at a gala event at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel March 12. **Joseph Ojalvo** will be named president and **Jacques Hadida, Bernard Cohen** and **Sam Totah** vice presidents.

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NAZI-HUNTER

Renowned Nazi-hunter **Simon Wiesenthal** will speak on "Nazis at Large — Is There a Time Limit on Retribution?" at McGill's Leacock Building Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. Evening is sponsored by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation.

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RUSSIAN LECTURE

The last lecture in the three-part series presented by the Quebec Russian Jewish Association is scheduled for Feb. 20 at the Snowdon branch of the YM-YWHA. Speaker is Prof. **N. Pervushin** on "The 13th Tribe — Were Khazars Jewish?" (in Russian).

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IS IT LEGAL?

American theorist and professor of law at Harvard, **Alan Dershowitz**, will discuss "Defending Jewish Rights at Home and Abroad — We Know What's Right But Is It Legal?" at Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem synagogue Feb. 17 at 8:30 p.m.

Michlalah, the Jerusalem College for Women, made a special presentation to the Israel Welfare Fund of Congregation Chevra Kadisha B'nai Jacob for its participation in building of the college's new campus in suburb of Bayit Ve'gan. From left are synagogue officers Sam Sokoloff, Myer Samuels, Morris Moscovitch, Rabbi Martin Appelbaum of Michlalah, Rabbi Benjamin Hauer and Robert Feldstein.

Montreal Jewry sitting tight, adjusting to political picture

'Mass exodus of Jews has not materialized'

MONTREAL [Staff] —

The Israelis living in Montreal — an estimated 14,000 to 16,000 — are finding that life in Canada is not all they expected, and if there is a large-scale move of Jews, it is likely most of them will be Israelis. This is the view of Zvi Levanon, director of the Aliyah Centre of the Canadian Zionist Federation.

"The rest of the Jewish population is waiting, trying to find all the opportunities there are for remaining here," he said.

The mass exodus of Jews from Quebec that was predicted in some quarters after the Nov. 15 provincial election has not materialized, but one result of the changed political picture has been the increase in telephone calls to the Aliyah Centre from people seeking information.

"Our telephones have not stopped ringing," said Avi Shlush, assistant director of the centre. "There's been a 200% increase in the number of people seeking information and four to six people are visiting our office every day. But few are thinking of Israel, not yet."

There was a brief upward trend in aliyah from Quebec in November when 39 (14 of whom were Israelis) left for Israel. The October figure was 27. However, December figures showed a levelling off when only 26, half of them Israelis, emigrated.

Most of those thinking of leaving the province are considering Ontario, western Canada or the United States. Rather than fight the current, the Aliyah Centre will now expand its scope to help those headed for other destinations than Israel.

CZF nevertheless plans to launch an all-out information program to convince Jews here that Israel is an attractive option.

Since coming to their posts Aug. 1, Levanon and Shlush have interviewed 459 potential immigrants. "We don't want to capitalize on the present political situation, but Israel needs people more than anything else right now. Money is important, but remember, as Abba Eban said, funds from the Diaspora make up only about 5½% of our budget," Levanon said.

Not everyone, though, is suited for aliyah. "Some people who come to us are talking about going to Israel as if they were moving to Atlanta. We must let people know what the opportunities in Israel really are."

Levanon and Shlush are stepping up their work among young people in schools, camps, meeting Israelis in their homes, travelling across Canada and "trying all the ways we can think of" to dispense information about Israel.

"We don't just want to send people to Israel, we also want to help the community become more involved with Jewish life. If they have a strong basis in Jewish education, they will go to Israel."

Shlush, also the executive director of the Communaute Sepharade du Quebec, noted that in the last year there has been a marked increase in interest among the Sephardim in aliyah. Half of those Israelis returning to Israel from Montreal were Sephardic.

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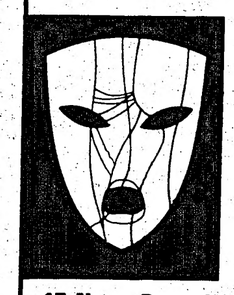
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This is the delegation of Jewish leaders who met Quebec Premier Rene Levesque in Montreal recently. They are (from left): Emanual Weiner, Allied Jewish Community Services, Ralph Lallouz, Sephardic community; Joel Pinsky of Congress-B'nai B'rith; Alan Rose, Congress; Harvey Crestohl, B'nai B'rith; Joe Ain, AJCS; Thomas Hecht, the Zionist Federation; Carl Laxer, Day School Association; Leon Teitelbaum of Congress and Rabbi Benjamin Hauer of the Board of Montreal Jewish Ministers.

Where are all the brave new voices?

IN MY VIEW
By CHARLES LAZARUS

MONTREAL —

Where are the giants? Where are the leaders? Where are the brave new voices that were to have succeeded the old? Why do they not come forth?

Think for a minute of all the great issues and challenges that are confronting us today — in Quebec, in Canada, in Russia, in Paris, in Israel — look at these crises that seem to tumble one on the other without end, and try to imagine what would have happened in the yesteryear:

Would Sam Bronfman, who was always so aware of how the Montreal Jewish community had grown and flourished under Confederation, have remained silent in the face of Rene Levesque's intellectual mendacity and gaucherie, comparing Ottawa's treatment of Quebec with George III's oppression of the colonials in the Thirteen States?

Would Moshe Dickstein have accepted the mumbling inanities uttered about Jewish and ethnic rights in the educational system, which are so patronizingly expressed by Parti Quebecois ministers?

Would A.J. Frieman or Joe Frank or Mike Garber have stood by passively when they headed the Canadian Zionist movement, without moving to tell Jews that if France chooses to ingratiate itself to Yasser Arafat as Mexico tried to do, then Jews have a right to treat France as they did Mexico?

The position of today's Jewish community in Quebec, as an example, is an interesting one: There is no outright panic nor, in the immediate term, any reason for panic.

Yet, yet, yet...

Who can deny that the prime conversation piece in every kitchen at family meal time, at every simcha, at every community event, is Levesque's referendum of promises, and performance of broken promises?

And who can deny, more than eight weeks after Pequiste Power became a reality, that, justified or not, a panoply of anxiety neuroses has descended on the community, and even beyond Quebec's borders?

At this time, when clarion courageous voices are required so urgently to tell Rene Levesque 'this far and no further' in chipping away at the status quo — after all, it was he who promised a continuity of the status quo until a referendum — and calm the fearful, what we get is in-breeding intellectuals holding seminars which only serve to heighten the apprehension.

For some reason which, to me, is beyond comprehension, this generation of our society does not appear to have been able to come up with the kind of valorous leadership so badly needed when confrontations between the Old World, New World and Third World have become everyday occurrences.

And this failure by society to recognize the importance of supreme self-confidence, non-tamperable principle and yes, even some arrogance as prerequisites for inspiring and inspired leadership by the rugged individualists, has resulted in our suffering during an age of mediocrity.

It is unfortunate that the rare exception of what I'm talking about is none other than Rene Levesque.

And the reason he's been able to achieve personal acceptability even with his ideological opponents is that he's "sincere."

Which reminds me of a long-forgotten postulate by a long-forgotten political cynic, that many of civilization's greatest catastrophes can be blamed on sincere people who meant well.

Language issue camouflages true objectives, says Crestohl

By MEL SOLMAN

MONTREAL —

Prominent Montreal attorney Harvey Crestohl told a capacity audience at the Saidye Bronfman Centre that the language question in Quebec was being used to camouflage a whole range of issues, both social and economic.

As one of the panelists chosen to discuss "Quebec 1977," Crestohl, past national chairman, League for Human Rights, said that no one had any objection to the legitimate desire of the French-speaking majority to preserve its language and culture.

"What I do take objection to," said Crestohl, "is the tendency to use language as an umbrella behind which are hidden a multiplicity of other motivations and objectives."

Citing the air traffic controllers' dispute, he stated that the matter of public safety, "the one fundamental issue in the whole debate, has been completely masked and concealed by simply raising the issue of language."

Crestohl also considered the ambiguous use of the term "francophone" to be part of this problem of hidden objectives.

"If this government really wants to preserve a pluralistic society in Quebec, it will define a francophone as any person who can work in the French language.

"If the government were to choose any other definition of francophone which was not based purely on linguistic grounds, they will be answering a lot of questions about their intentions, their good will and their good faith."

Crestohl emphasized that the supporters of the Parti Quebecois, who called for a monolithic society, worried him more than the government itself.

Harvey Crestohl

"I seriously doubt whether the minorities who seek to maintain their cultural identity would be very welcome as citizens of a new Quebec, unless the government maintains a pluralistic society even against the wishes of many of its followers."

He urged the Quebec government to publicly repudiate the idea of a monolithic society and to stress the preservation of cultural pluralism based on rights and not on privileges.

Responding to a question from the audience, Crestohl said that people who talk of a separate English state of Montreal in the event of an independent Quebec are "dreaming in technicolor."

He pointed out that talking this way is to concede to the breakup of Canada without a struggle and to negate all the efforts to hold the country together.

Asked about the economic viability of an independent Quebec, another panel member, McGill management dean Stanley Shapiro replied that the immediate effects of separation would be harmful.

"However," he said, "Quebec would continue to have its Western technology and a large and prosperous market. It would not be absurd to think that Quebec could continue to exist with a 'reasonable' per capita standard of living."

The discussion was moderated by lawyer Frank Schlesinger.

Long questions U.S. aid to Egypt

WASHINGTON [JTA] —

Rep. Clarence Long (D. Md.) has strongly questioned continued U.S. economic assistance to Egypt and the provision of nuclear technology to that country at a time when the Egyptian government is using a major portion of its resources for military purposes.

Long, who is chairman of the House Appropriations Committee's subcommittee on foreign appropriations, referred to the nuclear reactor promised Egypt by the U.S. "If Egypt had nuclear weaponry, that would be the end of detente in the Middle East," he said.

Long made his remarks in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after he and other Congressional leaders met with President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance at the White House to discuss pending legislation related to foreign affiars. The discussion was said to have included the transfer of $190 million the U.S. earmarked for food and development projects in Egypt.

A State Department spokesman indicated later that the Carter administration is reviewing the projected sale of two nuclear power plants to Egypt and Israel.

Declaring that he was "very sympathetic to Egypt's economic problems," Long asked, however, "Why should we be coming to Egypt's aid when it is spending about 25% of its gross national product — about $2 billion out of $9.3 billion — on military purposes?" He noted that was "four times as much as the U.S. is spending, relatively speaking, and it doesn't include the large quantities of Egypt's arms paid for by other Arab countries."

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CARPENTRAS SHUL SIGHT TO SEE

By LISI MATLOFSKY

CARPENTRAS, France — Martha and I were planning our trip from Paris to the south of France. "Do you see this little town here?" She pointed to a dot on the map called Carpentras, about 20 kilometers north-east of Avignon. "We must not miss visiting the synagogue there."

She was right. It was well worth the little effort and planning that was needed to get to the charming ancient synagogue rich with history and lore.

The day we made our visit there was planned just right, as we found out later. In the morning, we visited the Popes' Palace in Avignon. We had lunch on the banks of a spring whose source was never found: Fontaine de Vaucluse, about 20 kilometers east of Avignon.

Just before 3 p.m., when the two daily visiting hours begin, we arrived in Carpentras.

We wound our way through narrow sleepy streets and found the synagogue easily enough, although its facade was very unimposing, rather lost between adjoining buildings. A pleasant Jewish gentleman approached us. "Are you here to see our synagogue?" he asked in French, smiling warmly.

Thus we started our tour with Leon Benaich, who unfolded the mysteries and history of the little synagogue. He did it with so much enthusiasm and love that it was impossible not to be completely enthralled by him and the place.

This is the magnificent interior of the synagogue in Carpentras, France.

A flight of wide stone steps led to the main floor. Numerous chandeliers, mostly from the 18th century, some as old as the 14th century, lit the room. They revealed a squarish two-floor structure of wood and elaborately-carved marble in various colors.

In the middle section of the second-floor gallery, opposite the holy ark, there was an ornate marble structure which appeared to be a pulpit. This seemed rather odd, as the bima is usually placed on the first floor. In fact, even here there was a simple wooden one in the centre of the room.

After letting us marvel at the splendor and wonder at the oddities for a while, Benaich actually started telling us the history of the place.

The synagogue in Carpentras was built in 1367. There was an earlier one which was destroyed. The present one is the oldest synagogue in France today and the second oldest in Europe. (The Prague synagogue is older still.)

There were about 90 families in the town at the time. Like all the Jews around Avignon, they too were under the jurisdiction of the church — actually referred to as the Pope's Jews.

He protected them, but in reality it meant numerous restrictions and occasional expulsions. This form of "protection" had to be paid for dearly, either in heavy taxes or, worse still, in souls.

According to our guide, each time a wedding was performed, the simcha turned over the 10 children that had to be handed over to the church for conversion.

The lower structure of the synagogue, including a mikvah (ritual bath), a bread oven, a matzot oven as well as a congregational hall, appears today as it was built in the 14th century.

In the 18th century the community grew to 160 families, despite the persecutions. They decided to restore the existing structure on the main floor and add to it. The necessary permit from the church was obtained, and in the years 1741-3 they added to the building, creating a double gallery structure.

While walking around, I came upon a small niche on the right side of the holy ark. It contained a charming foot-high replica of a chair with the inscription "kise Eliahu" on it.

"This is another unique attraction here," said Benaich. "There are, in fact, only a few like it in the Jewish world."

The Eliahu chair of normal size is used as the "throne" for the sandak — the godfather — of the child who is having his britmila. This 18th century miniature was used to carry in the baby ceremoniously. "And what do you make of this?" asked our guide, pointing to the carved marble holy ark. "You think it is marble, don't you?"

With a mysterious smile he knocked on it with his fist. A rather wooden, hollow sound echoed back. "Well, as you can hear, it is pure wood."

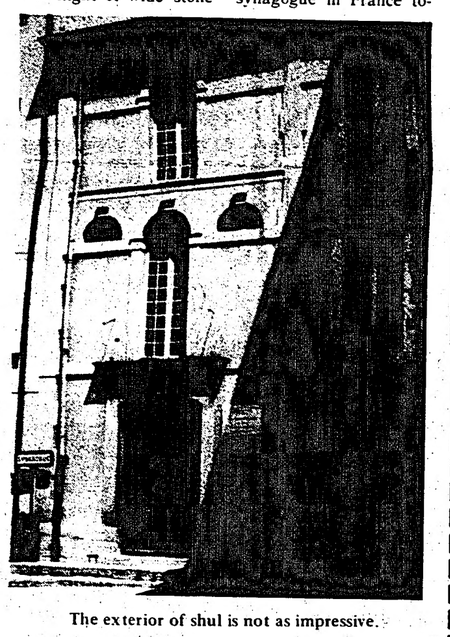
Astonished, we walked around examining the "marble" structures — it was all a masterly executed fake, and no one could tell. "Not even the Nazis," he said, "and that is how our little synagogue was saved.

"There was one descendant of the Pope's Jews left in town when the Nazis arrived. This old lady secretly collected all movable objects in the synagogue, among them the over 1,000-year-old Torah scrolls. She placed it all in a coffin, which was then buried in the Jewish cemetery.

"When the Nazis walked in the door, there wasn't much left except the bare structure."

So there. Carpentras' synagogue even has its local miracle lore. In any case, the synagogue was indeed saved and most of its treasures placed back.

Mrs. Matlofsky is a Toronto artist.



The exterior of shul is not as impressive.

Abu Daoud incident prompts AJC to announce a boycott of France

NEW YORK — The American Jewish Congress has announced the cancellation of its members' travel program to France.

Naomi Levine, executive director, said the Congress was acting in protest against the French government's "indefensible, morally repugnant action in freeing the notorious Palestinian terrorist Abu Daoud."

The American Jewish Congress is the largest participant in the overseas Jewish group-travel field. Most of its tours are Israel-oriented but some have extensions to France.

In announcing cancellation of tours that visit France, Mrs. Levine said:

"We cannot just stand by. We feel it is imperative to find a way to respond to French cowardice and indifference to the obligations men and nations owe each other if they are to develop a world in which innocent civilians can live in safety."

Noting it was an Air France plane that was hijacked to Entebbe last June, Mrs. Levine said: "The French pilot of that aircraft elected to remain with his passengers until their safety was assured. We wish French politicians shared his humanity."

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Magnetism of the Holy Land reaches crescendo of power during Passover

By CHARLES LAZARUS

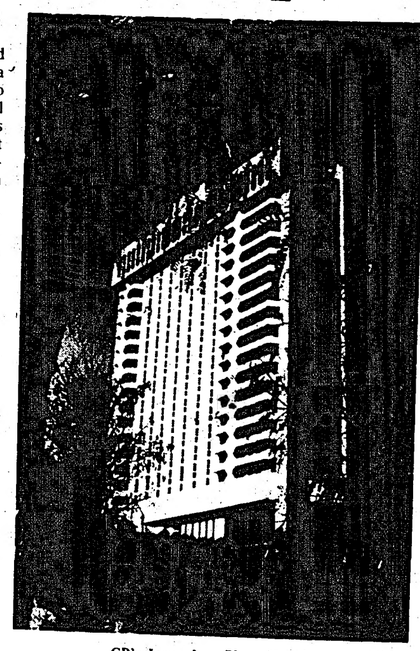
Comes the spring and Israel's magnetism as a tourist-target begins to reach full power — well ahead of other countries known for their tourist attraction, and whose tourist peak doesn't begin until the middle of June.

The reason is simply that the Holy Land projects something unique in modern marriages — a union of religion and tourism — as mankind's two central faiths, Judaism and Christianity, observe two of the most symbolic and significant occasions on their religious calendars, Passover and Easter.

This year, following Israel's most successful tourist year ever in 1976, the arrival of spring will mean something very special for visitors coming to the Holy Land: those of the Jewish faith to celebrate Pesach, pursuing the mitzvah of oleh regel or pilgrimage, and Christians visiting the holy sites at Easter time.

What will be rather special for this year's spring visitors, in practical terms, reflects a number of developments in the tourist industry of very special interest to Canadians, and focussed in Jerusalem and Tiberias where the spiritual fervor of Passover and Easter, during the first week of April, are centred.

First is the expected opening of the Tiberias Plaza on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, the second luxury hostelry which Canadian Pacific's CP Hotels is to operate in Israel; the first, the Jerusalem Plaza, has been a most successful operation since CP Hotels began operating it just over two years ago.



CP's Jerusalem Plaza Hotel

Second is the Canada Jewry Day proclaimed by Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek for March 27, in tribute to the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, with the Canadian ambassador participating in dedicating various projects at the Mount Scopus campus.

Finally there is the news that beginning April 1, El Al is expanding its Montreal-Tel Aviv service by increasing the number of non-stop flights weekly and, more significantly, adding the jumbo 747 superjet to upgrade the Canada-Israel schedule.

In the little more than two years that Canadian Pacific has been operating its hotel service in Israel, the impact has been significant both in terms of its effect on Israelis who see this as viable proof of the country's tourist potential, and in providing a new dimension of five-star luxury hotel service, by a Canadian company.

First there was Hilton, initially in Tel Aviv, then in Jerusalem — we are talking here of the impact by North American hotel companies — now there is CP Hotels, first in Jerusalem, and very soon at the Sea of Galilee with the Tiberias Plaza.

Donald W. Curtis, CP Hotels chairman and president who works out of the Royal York in Toronto, takes a broad look in discussing his company's agreement (with the Yam Kinneret Hotels Ltd., which owns the new 272-room, 12-storey Tiberias Plaza) to operate the hostelry on a long term basis.

"We anticipate," said Curtis, "that this association of CP Hotels and Yam Kinneret Hotels will develop new markets for the local tourist industry with increased traffic generated from Canada, Europe, North and South America through our extensive marketing and sales network."

Adding Canadian authenticity, and reaffirming CP Hotels operating policy, is the transfer of Simon F. Cooper from the Chateau Champlain in Montreal to become manager of the Jerusalem Plaza; and the transfer of H. Ross Justice from the Royal York to manage the Tiberias Plaza.

For the spring tourist, of course, particularly at the Passover and Easter periods, the big action is around Tiberias and Jerusalem.

Indeed, from these two vantage points, history and the Bible join in dramatic confluence.

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Conflict in Ottawa over boycott

Cont'd from Page 1

Administrative directives, as well as amendments to the Export Development Corporation Act, the Anti-Combines Act and the pending Human Rights Bill, might have the effect of blunting the impact of the boycott, Cotler explained.

However, he warned that only a specific anti-boycott bill — as opposed to piecemeal amendments — could combat the secondary and tertiary boycott in this country. The boycott reportedly affects more than 100 Canadian companies.

Taking issue with Trudeau, Cotler said extra-territorial application of foreign laws to Canada was inimical to the free market. "There is no free market and there will not be one without government protection for it."

Herb Gray (L-Windsor West), a well known foe of the boycott, said Trudeau's comments were disappointing, and he disclosed he would ask the prime minister for a clarification at the first available opportunity.

"What he said isn't consistent with the sentiments and policy statement of last October.... I'm disturbed."

The onetime federal minister of consumer affairs said, however, he found it hard to believe that Trudeau's remarks were really representative of his views. "Maybe the prime minister was preoccupied with other issues or not adequately briefed. ...I would want to hear his considered response to Cotler's report."

MP David Orlikow said his interpretation of Trudeau's remarks was that the government would not adopt binding legislation. As for Macdonald's answer, he said: "I hope he means it, but on the basis of past experience I won't hold my breath. This question has been around for a long time, hasn't it? And there hasn't been any action. Don't expect any.

"The government of Canada isn't giving any leadership when it comes to international matters."

He said it was his estimation that the existing guidelines — which have been criticized for lacking sanctions — would not be implemented "during the life of this Parliament — 15 to 18 months."

Norman May, co-chairman of the Canada-Israel Committee, told The CJN he "very much regretted" Trudeau's remarks.

Attempting to reconcile the divergent comments of Trudeau and Macdonald, May noted: "The prime minister might have been saying anti-boycott legislation is not in the cards. On the other hand, Macdonald may have been saying the Bank Act revision may contain an anti-boycott clause."

The former York law professor emphasized he had not read the transcript of Trudeau's press conference, and warned that the prime minister may very well have spoken without considering his words carefully.

Phil Givens, national president of the Canadian Zionist Federation, said he was still optimistic that Ottawa might adopt tough legislation. "The government is always willing to listen to people; they haven't closed the door."

He said he lent much credence to Macdonald's statement. "He's the senior man in the cabinet and I would tend to have more faith in his remarks than that of Trudeau's."

Givens said the finance minister's statement was consistent with what he told a Canada-Israel Committee delegation in Ottawa recently, adding: "Nothing is to be gained by fostering a conflict between statements made by Trudeau and Macdonald."

Firm may leave

LONDON (JTA) —

Metal Box, the international packaging group with a 500 million sterling annual turnover, has confirmed that it may pull out of a long-standing investment in Israel after Arab threats to several of its major customers. Although the company only admitted that it was "examining" the question, it is believed that the company has virtually decided to wind up its 27% stake in the Israel Can Company, which began more than a quarter of a century ago.

The news is bound to lead to renewed demands here that the government introduce legislation against the Arab boycott like that promised by the Carter administration in the United States. Arab countries, including Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, have warned customers of Metal Box that they cannot sell their products in the Arab world if they continue to use Metal Box packaging. The products involved are some of the world's most famous brands of canned fish, meat, fruit, vegetables and drinks.

Amos Lavee, economic minister at the Israel embassy, said the Metal Box case was a classic example of the "tertiary boycott" in which British companies take action against other British companies out of fear of losing lucrative Arab trade. He believed that British companies succumbed to such pressures more readily than in some other countries "because of a lack of national confidence." He said he knew of other major companies which were contemplating ending their investment in Israel because of the Arab boycott."

The effects of the boycott are reflected in declining British exports to Israel. Last year they rose by only five percent — from 238 million sterling to 249 million sterling. Israel exports to Britain, on the other hand, jumped by more than 40% — from 91 million sterling to 128 million sterling.

Bill Davis lauds Israel

Cont'd from Page 1

The nation itself, its seats of higher learning, child care, the education system, the hospitals, the care for senior citizens, the intaking of immigrants, the economic and social fibre of the country, "are living testaments to the ultimate failure of racism, inhumanity and persecution."

Presiding at the dinner was Murray Koffler, a former UJA campaign chairman, who introduced the head table guests. Mordechai Shalev, Israel's ambassador to Ottawa, spoke briefly as did Eddie Goodman, who introduced the premier. He accompanied the premier to Israel.

Goodman said Davis has shown a clear understanding of the fact that the survival of western democracy is linked closely to the survival of Israel and "he has made his position known to his fellow Canadians." He said Davis "is faithfully carrying out the tradition of his predecessors in supporting Jewish institutions in Ontario."

The premier was the recipient of a plaque inscribed with a tribute signed by Joseph Berman, chairman of the 1977 UJA campaign, and by Koffler. The presentation address said it was hoped the plaque would serve "as a constant reminder of the esteem and affection in which you are held by the Jewish community."

The report on the progress of the UJA campaign to date said the dollar total is $9,727,000 from 16,000 contributors.

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* * *

York Downs-Bathurst
Spacious 2 storey, 4 bedroom home. Large entrance, powder room, finished basement. Beautiful treed area opposite magnificent estates. Only $114,000. Attractive financing. Mrs. Solomon, 789-4325.

* * *

Bathurst-Eglinton
$99,500. Beautiful 2 storey stone Tudor. 4 bedrooms, 3 washrooms, master-ensuite. Large kitchen with separate breakfast room. Excellent family room. Barry Tsur, 789-4325 or 789-2979.

* * *

Bathurst-Steeles
$79,900. Conveniently situated to shopping, schools and religious institutions. Sparkling condition, 3 bedroom bungalow. Lovely size rooms, Hollywood style kitchen, excellent finished basement. 6¼% mtge. Myrna Stone, 789-4325.

TAL-RAM REAL ESTATE LTD

HOUSES FOR SALE

Harvey Kalles REALTOR

New Listing — St. Andrews
$169,500
Unique, 2-storey with every conceivable luxury. Carpeted and draped, 5 bedrooms, main floor family room, finished lower level. Call Joyce Dean, 226-9440.

* * *

Old Colony Rd.
$395,000
Dignified all-brick Georgian Colonial majestically situated on a ½ acre lot, 9 ft. ceilings, hand-pegged oak floors, beautiful rooms. The quality of this home is best depicted by the exquisite taste shown throughout. Lee Landsberg, 226-9440.

* * *

"Gatesby" — Top Showplace Of Area
Misty-Sandfield — $495,000
Unique contemporary home built in the tradition of old craftsmen. Quality materials, skylights, 4 fireplaces (one in country kitchen & in master suite). Soaring ceilings, privacy and flexibility for varying family needs. Elise Kalles, 226-9440.

* * *

Leslie-York Mills
$139,900
Custom-built centre hall plan with 4 bedrooms plus ensuite and powder rooms. Charming main floor family room with Fieldstone fireplace. Knotty pine rec room also has fireplace. 2 car garage. Call Ruth Straughan, 226-9440.

* * *

Connoisseur's Contemporary
York Mills-Bayview
$239,000
Open House Sun. 2-4 P.M.
Riderwood & Kirkwood Dr.
The marriage of brick, woods, expanses of glass makes this home an incomparable showplace. Master suite augmented by a free form stairway leading to a private hideaway. 5 bedrooms, sunken marble baths — designed for a fun-loving family with a flair for hospitality and something very special. Lee Landsberg, 226-9440.

* * *

Bayview South of York Mills
1 Acre
Indoor Pool, Tennis Court Sauna
$540,000. Ravine property in a choice location. Luxuriate in this captivating Georgian Estate with no expense spared for the discriminating buyer. Sunken living room, music room leading to quarry-tiled terrace. Fantastic one-of-a-kind pantry kitchen. Finest interior detail. Indoor pool area opens in summer & transports one to any place in the world. Elise Kalles.

Harvey Kalles REALTOR

York Mills-Bayview
$299,000. Off Sandfield. Custom-built, 4 yrs. new, 2-storey Colonial. Gourmet kitchen, indoor barbecue. Family rm., library, quality oak panelling, rec rm., walkout to pool & fountain. PRICED TO SELL! Mrs. Hodgson, 444-9815. Slightham R.E., 445-4100.

The Royal Trust Company Realtor

Bathurst-Wilson-Invermay
$20,000 down to excellent financing buys this spotless 3 bdrm. bungalow. Self-contained bsmt. Walk to schools, synagogues & shops. Many extras. M. Cappe, 532-3391.

* * *

Finch & Bathurst
Beautiful 3 bdrm townhome, 2 baths, fin. bsmt., brdlm, near TTC. $66,900. E. Barnahor, 635-1170.

* * *

Bathurst-Sheppard Beauty
$40,000 down. Unique design, huge 4 bdrm split-level, den, super kitchen, w/o to balcony, large living & dining, 4 baths, 2-car garage, maid's quarters, quiet court, easy terms. Mrs. Seidman, 635-1170.

* * *

Bathurst & Wilson
$10,000 down. 2-storey det., 3 bdrm, 2 baths, brdlm, fin. bsmt., separate entrance. Fast poss. Mrs. Benegbi, 635-1170.

* * *

Open House Sun. 2-5
4 Stonedene Blvd
Bathurst so. of Steeles. New listing. $30,000 down. Luxury ranch bungalow, 3 bdrms, large kitchen, huge rec rm., fireplace, extras. Mrs. Kerbel, 635-1170.

* * *

Bathurst Village Special
$25,000 down. Prestige, 4 big bdrms, family rm, 3 baths & den. Cedar closet, rec rm bar. Must be sold. T. Feldheim, 635-1170.

* * *

York Mills-Leslie Area
$50,000 down. Charming family home. 5 bdrms, 4 bathrms, cozy main floor family rm with fireplace. Large principal rms, gourmet kitchen, main floor laundry rm, completely fin. lower level, central air, intercom. Must be seen. M. Cappe, 532-3391.

* * *

Business & Building
$69,900. Bathurst St. Glass mirrors & frames. Must be sold. Good going concern, first-class accounts. $25,000 down. Mr. Bermanski, 961-4444.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Rockford — forced to sell — private. 3-4 bedroom bungalow, finished family and rec room, air conditioning, double garage, close to all conveniences. Reasonable. 638-2346. 25

RICHARD LEVINSKY REALTOR

Cortleigh Blvd.
$165,000. First time offered. Beautifully decorated, 2-storey home, featuring 4-bedrooms, master with washroom ensuite. Main floor has large kitchen, living/dining room with walkout to Florida room plus large rear yard. A completely finished basement plus central air conditioning and other extras make this a great value. Please call 486-1400.

Private Sale
163 Charlton Blvd.
Bathurst-Finch
Dr's Residence
Luxury executive 5 bedroom backsplit. Natural stone front, rosewood-marble-vestibule, teak den, recessed walnut panelled family room with built-in bookcases, modern walnut kitchen, finished teak rec rm. with fireplace, built-in wet bar, additional kitchen, open oak staircase, central electric heating, water-cooled carrier central air-conditioner, electro-static air cleaner, cedar closet, double garage. Close to synagogues and associated Hebrew schools. 223-4551. 25

Paul Slavens Real Estate Ltd. Realtor

Denlow Estates
Just Listed — $164,500
Most inviting home — ideal for entertaining and family living. Fantastic library with working fireplace, huge (eat-in) kitchen, main floor family room with walk-out to garden, convenient laundry-mud room, powder room, 4 super bedrooms (master has ensuite). Many extras include central air; 2 car garage. Call Mrs. Federman, 483-4337.

* * *

Forest Hill
Just Listed — $124,500
Charming, cozy and comfortable 2 storey, 4 bedroom home set on a large treed lot, an excellent house for the young family. Main floor powder room, modern kitchen with built-in appliances and walkout to a deck. Super lower level family room with open fireplace and wet bar. Many more expensive extras. Call Eleanor Stanton, 483-4337.

* * *

Baycrest-Bathurst
Beautiful custom-built bungalow with double garage, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (master ensuite), huge modern kitchen, centrally air-conditioned, excellent hardwood floors, plus 5 rooms finished in basement. Call Phyllis Rosen, 483-4337.

* * *

Roselawn-Caldow
Newly Listed
You won't believe this buy! Charming 2 bedroom bungalow, immaculate condition throughout. Cozy living room with open fireplace, modern kitchen, lower level finished with extra bath. Call Donald Wagman, 483-4337.

* * *

Outstanding
Burton-Strathearn
Beautiful stone tudor executive residence. Featuring elegant living room with working fireplace. Separate formal dining room, 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, richly panelled library with fireplace and oak-pegged floors. Call Mr. Hillman, 483-4337.

Bayhurst-Steeles
4 bedroom brick home with Hollywood kitchen, large master with walk-in closet & 2-piece ensuite. Lower level features self-contained apt. with separate entrance. Asking $79,900. Mr. Malloy, 226-5222 or res. 221-0664.
National Trust Co. Ltd.

Bathurst-Finch-Forest Hills
Luxury 2 & 3 bedroom apts. 2 full 4-piece baths, wrap-around balcony, large kitchen, all appliances. 636-5200.
Lil Rush Real Estate Ltd. Realtor

Realty-One Ltd. Realtor

Leslie-York Mills
Luxurious Pool
$155,900. This gracious 4-bedroom beauty in the Denlow area has every conceivable feature for today's lifestyle, including main floor family room with fieldstone fireplace, spacious and inviting entrance hall with spiral staircase. Luxurious 20' x 40' Jacuzzi in-ground pool. Choice lot overlooking parkland. Mr. Fisher, 789-3473.

* * *

Avenue Road-Eglinton
Choice Duplex
$114,900. Excellent value on this quiet residential street. This detached beauty features 2 spacious 2-bedroom suites. Offers good residence for owner with added income. Private drive. Mrs. Asher, 789-3473.

HOUSES FOR SALE

the Permanent

Are you thinking of relocating your family in Toronto? Do it now — while winter prices are in effect. Terrific buys in good areas. You will get professional advice and personal service at no extra cost to you. Call Sylvia Banack, 789-7351 or 961-0136.

* * *

North Bathurst
Outstanding value for this luxury split featuring marble entrance hall, entertainment size living and dining rooms, family room with walkout, double garage, central air and many more extras. Vendor bought. Asking only $117,900. Mrs. G. Feldman, 789-7351 or 633-0368.

* * *

Bathurst St-At Croydon Rd!
$84,900. ½ storey immaculate 3 bedroom home — fully detached and solid brick. Main level powder room, updated kitchen, deep garden, private drive & garage. Sheila Allen-Tittel, 789-7351 or 782-3643.

* * *

Upper Forest Hill
Splendid Custom Residence
$289,000. "Contemporary" design 2 storey, stone front, 5 bedroom family home finished in fine taste & quality materials on "quiet" Burmont Road! Accessible to Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Main level "Sheldon Rosen" designed family room addition with skylights, beams & open "copper-hooded" fireplace invite inside rear courtyard & waterfall. 5 baths, extra library, sauna, huge billiard room! Every luxury & convenience implemented by thoughtful owners & maintained beautifully! Sheila Allen-Tittel, 789-7351 or 782-3643.

* * *

Dunvegan Road
Lower Forest Hill
$249,000. Brand new listing! Comfortable, bright 3 storey centre hall family home has been updated and decorated tastefully indeed! Music room and "extra-large" breakfast room overlook "deep" 164' "newly" landscaped garden and patio. Modernized kitchen, 17' x 15' dining room, gracious living room with open fireplace & dark oak parquet floors complement ground level! Study on generous landing, 3 bedrooms & 2 baths on 2nd, 2 more plus 1 bath on 3rd. Finished basement, new furnace, central air. Lovely finishing touches "all" included invite you to simply move in! Sheila Allen-Tittel, 789-7351 or 782-3643.

* * *

Old Forest Hill Rd.
Lower Village
$389,000. Incomparable restoration is this 3-storey Georgian architectural masterpiece! All rooms of grand proportions with lofty ceiling & heights. Main level offers elegant reception rooms from deep centre hall, 20' x 16' custom white & cedar gourmet kitchen & mezzanine breakfast room step down to 17'9 x 17'6 family room & atrium. Panelled landing library 18' x 17'6, 3 exquisite bedroom "suites" on second (all co-ordinated by leading interior designer), open staircase to third (3 more bedrooms plus bath on third), burglar, sauna, central air, fire detectors, central vacuum etc. Blend of "old" & "new". Executed to near perfection! Sheila Allen-Tittel, 789-7351 or 782-3643.

* * *

Bathurst Village
Immaculate stone front sidesplit with all the luxuries you so richly deserve. Ultra-modern kitchen, panelled family room, 4 baths, central air, dble drive & garage are just a few of the attractions. Close to synagogues, schools & transportation. No financing to arrange. Come see your new home with Gary Mitchell, 789-7351.
Canada Permanent Trust Realtor

TRI-GOLD realty ltd

Leslie-Cummer
Pickle Barrel Special!
Just listed, luxury 4 bdrm. townhouse, attached garage, finished basement, huge kitchen, new broadloom, appliances, central air, easy financing to suit your down-payment. Call Mr. Goldman, 663-9720.

* * *

Wilson Heights-Sheppard
Detached 3 bdrm. bungalow, attached garage, 2 baths finished basement with 2nd kitchen, central air, appliances, vendor will hold one open mtge. to your down-payment! Call Mr. Goldman, 663-9720.

* * *

Forest Hill Condos
We have for sale 1 & 2 bdrm. luxury condominiums offered at the lowest prices in the building. Call 663-9720.

For professional real estate service, call Tri-Gold Realty Ltd., 663-9720.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Steeles & Leslie. 10 rooms plus finished basement. Walkout to ravine. $169,000. 449-8695. 11

HERSH

Aspenwood Dr.
Open Sun. 2-4 P.M.
Leslie-South of Steeles. Trilevel and 2 storey 4 bedroom about 2,800 sq. ft. living space. Central air-conditioning. From $118,000 up. Double garage. Ida Weisfeld, 633-7777.

* * *

Ellison Ave.
Open Sun. 2-4 P.M.
South of Sheppard. West of Bathurst. 2 storey, 4 bedrooms, central air-conditioning. Double garage. Finished to your choice. Evelyn Pollock, 633-7777.

* * *

New Homes!
Bathurst-Finch
Ultra-large beautiful backsplits. 3 or 4 bedrooms. 3 washrooms. Spacious family room with fireplace. Hollywood kitchens, double basements. Choice location. Stan Grossman, 633-7777.

* * *

Bathurst-Neptune
2 Br. Condominium
Luxury bldg. 5 rooms. 2-4 pc. washrooms, appliances, 8¾% mtge. Air-conditioned. Sauna, etc. Lynda Stoneman, 633-7777.

* * *

Bathurst-Wilson
Ranch Bungalow
Oversize living & dining rooms. 3 bedrooms, bathroom ensuite, finished basement apt. and family room. Garage. Miriam Benyovits, 633-7777.

* * *

Steps to B'nai Torah
Backsplit Beauty!
Luxury home. Double garage, party-size living & dining rooms, modern kitchen, 2 bedrooms, main floor family room, 4th bedroom or den. Panelled rec room, central air. Rose Stone, 633-7777.

* * *

Betty Ann Drive!
$116,500. Stone front, 8-room sidesplit. Double garage, main floor family room, walkout to cedar deck & garden. Easy financing. Ruth Trachter, 633-7777.

* * *

Eglinton-Glenarden
Try An Offer!
Stately, 2-storey home with large rooms, 3 washrooms. Owners have bought! Rita Brown, 633-7777.

Neptune Drive
Just reduced. Gorgeous 2 bdrm. condo facing south, brdlm. & appliances. Owner anxious to move. Call Phyllis, 487-1771 office, 481-8920 res. Brenmore Real Estate Ltd.

TAL-RAM REAL ESTATE LTD

Luxury — Forest Hill
Modern concept — 13 years new. Open flow prevails throughout. Top quality materials and sensational design and planning. Huge reception hall, excellent room proportions including main floor family room, 5 bedrooms plus library, wine cellar and open rec room. Kitchen has centre island overlooking front courtyard. The finest in a prestige area. Barry Tsur, 789-4325 or 789-2979.

* * *

Lower Village — Elegance
Just listed this fine residence. Most interesting layout — large rooms. Dream kitchen — fully modernized with latest equipment. 5-6 bedrooms, 6 washrooms (4 ensuite), den, family room, billiard room. Breathtaking master wing. Leaded windows, stained oak floors and panelling, semi-cathedral ceilings with cedar applications, artistic mouldings, etc., etc., etc. Barry Tsur, 789-4325 or 789-2979.

* * *

Lower Village — Splendour
Unveiling the beauty of tradition — a home of true distinction. Elegantly detailed in rich woods and high ceilings. The principal rooms and flow are second to none. A large family requiring 8 bedrooms, sitting rooms and lounges will find it a delight to live and entertain. Renee Bald, 789-4325.

* * *

Forest Hill — $155,000
Comfortable, spacious family home. Centre hall plan, library and powder room on main. 4 lovely bedrooms, 4 washrooms, fabulous basement. Sparkling condition. Renee Bald, 789-4325.

TAL-RAM REAL ESTATE LTD

6 Plex
Bathurst-Lawrence
$40,000-$50,000 down. Excellent location, close to shopping, 4 garages. Rents can be increased. Apartment available. Arthur Altstedter Ltd., Realtor. Telephone 881-4266.

CARPET KOFFLER REALTOR

Open House
Sat.-Sun. 2-4:30 P.M.
160 York Mills Road
$84,900. Walk to subway. Sunny, well-planned, 3 bdrm. home. Den opens to pool-size treed garden. Large step-saver kitchen, appliances. Bright, warm 26' rec room, space-saving baseboard heat. Fine for growing family. One good mtge. See it or call 787-1791.

HOUSES FOR SALE

DEL REALTY INC REALTOR

Bathurst & Finch
Just reduced $10,000. Exquisite 3 or 5 bdrm. solid brick detached sidesplit, attached double garage, family rm. plus finished lower level, broadloom, central air cond., appliances, excellent 10¾% mtge. Call Barney Daiter, 661-3640.
Del Realty Inc. Realtor

Finch-Bathurst
Luxury Townhouse
$69,900. End unit assures complete privacy! 3 bedrooms, 1¾ baths, finished rec room plus den, all broadloomed! Steve Spencer, 226-3040.
A. E. LePage [ontario] Ltd. Realtor

Young & Biggin Ltd. Realtor

Briar Hill & Marlee
Luxury 2 & 3 bdrm. apts., 2 full baths, utility rms., gatin kitchens. From $43,500. Kala Solway, 487-4341.

HELEN RUTH SOLNIK & RYBAK REAL ESTATE LTD.

Bathurst-Glencairn
$96,900
Beautiful 8 room, 2-storey, spacious living & dining rooms, ultra-modern kitchen, main floor powder room, den & family room with walkout to garden. Central air, broadloom, drapes, appliances. Move-in condition. Ruth Rybak, 789-7138.

* * *

Bathurst-Wilson
Condominium
$47,900. Beautiful 2 bedroom, large ultra-modern kitchen, 2 baths, ensuite, laundry room, central air, broadloom, appliances, pool, sauna. Must sell! Ruth Rybak, 789-7138.

* * *

Bathurst-Steeles
For Sale or Rent
Executive 4 bedroom, 2 storey, large ultra-modern kitchen, main floor family room with walkout to patio, 3 baths, attached double garage, central air. Helen Arbus, 789-7138.

* * *

Eglinton-Marlee
Condominium
Luxury 3 bdrm., 2 baths, broadloom, custom drapes, appliances. Helen Solnik, 789-7138.

* * *

Yonge-Eglinton
5 bdrms., 3 baths, finished bsmt., 3 open fireplaces, broadloom throughout, major appliances. Helen Arbus, 789-7138.

* * *

Bathurst-Lawrence
3 or 5 bdrm. split, 5 baths, finished basement, dbl. garage, built-in appliances, near synagogues. Helen Arbus, 789-7138.

PERSONAL

Sharp businessman, age 34, is seeking an attractive single girl between 20 & 30. Write to Box 4754, CJN, 22 Balliol St., Suite 15, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1C1. 18

Attractive, sensitive 29-year-old man seeks partner in life. If loving affection, the rewards of a life with true meaning and the joys of raising a large Jewish family on a Moshav in Israel are your priorities in life as they are mine, then please write me care of Box 4757, CJN, 22 Balliol St., Suite 15, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1C1. 11

Gentleman, 29, University grad, seeks female companion. Write to Box 7186, Station "A", Toronto, Ont. M5W 1X8. 11

Internationally famous investigator. Civic Investigative Services, Box 75, Downsview. Phone 638-0947. 25

Marriage minded? Select partner who shares your values, objectives, suits your personality, meets your individual need. Call "Project Khalla": in Toronto, Mrs. Fren, 534-7310; in Montreal, Mrs. Nadin, 282-0058, or write Box 4734, CJN, 22 Balliol St., Ste. 15, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1C1. Since 1962 seeking happiness for you. 25

Attractive, shy young lady wishes to meet sincere gentleman between 28-35 for companionship. Reply to Box 4765, CJN, 22 Balliol St., Ste. 15, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1C1. 18

Annette —
We will be going to the "40-UP CLUB" dance Sunday, February 13, at 12 Viewmount Ave. The Norm Darrin Band will be playing.
Love, Morris 11

Members wanted! Branches for all ages. Congenial atmosphere with year-round activities. Call Henry Cohen-Sittayoun, 787-0339, 9-5 p.m. or Sunday, 9:30-12:30. 11

World Wide Dating and Matrimonial Agency. All ages. **Free brochure.** Call (305) 735-7660 or 721-8257. Write: LDE, P.O. Box 5643, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33310. 25

PERSONAL

New members wanted to join Chaverim "Chapter in Formation" B'nai B'rith Women. Married & Singles — 20-26 years. Please call Renee, 226-2244, after 6 p.m. 11

Middle-aged lady would like to meet a gentleman with serious intentions. Reply Box 4769, CJN, 22 Balliol St., Ste. 15, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1C1. 18

Seeking Jewish women to play Mahjongg. Keele and Wilson, 633-8740. 11

Woman, fiftyish, would like same to join her on vacation. Interests: museums, art galleries, sight-seeing. 635-8486 evenings. 11

ROOMS FOR RENT

Bathurst-Wilson. Nice furnished room in quiet home. Business girl or student, kitchen facilities, parking. Close to bus. 781-8005. 11

Bathurst-Lawrence. Nice furnished room in quiet home. 781-8951. 11

ROOMS WANTED

Israeli music student, male, looking to live in home with piano. 481-6777. 11

SERVICES

Appliances

Appliances — Repairs
Stoves, fridges, washers, dryers, air conditioners, commercial refrigeration. Mottie Nussbaum, 781-3612. 25

Wasser's TV Service — Sales & Rental, Ont. Gov't Cert. #1060. Member: Toronto TV Association. Over 25 years in TV service business, 636-6666. Our name is your guarantee. 25

Carpenter

Experienced carpenter, concrete, reasonable rates for alterations or repairs. 633-3467 after 6 p.m. 25

Carpenter, all types of carpentry work, stores, residences, offices, recreation rooms. Call 964-2179 till 5 p.m. and 922-9482 after 5 p.m. and weekends. 25

Clothing/Fur Repairs

Fur repairs. Alterations, remodelling, also sheepskin coats. 494-3288. 25

Corsets, brassieres and bathing suits. Individually designed. Custom-made and alterations. European experience. Margaret Lakos, 437 Lawrence Ave. W., 787-7754. 25

Dressmaking, alterations. Good references, guaranteed work. Elkaim, 787-3704. 11

Electrician

Electrician. Reasonable rates, free estimates, all work guaranteed. License 381. Call 636-6251. 25

Electrical appliance repair. No charge for service calls. 633-9342. 11

Entertainment

Weinberg and Michon Disc Jockey Service. Music for all occasions. Call 787-7665. 25

Framing

Window Shades
Custom-made, shown in your own home. We beat all prices! Call Howard Swartz, Dee & Dee Carpeting, 223-3622; 483-9877. 25

Home Cleaning

Broadloom and upholstery cleaning on location, steam cleaning method. A-1 Rug Steam, 781-5359. 25

Home Improvements

General Contractor, specializes in renovations, alterations, home improvements, 18 years experience, free estimates. Louis, 743-1635. 25

General work — building renovator and home improvements, 781-5403. 25

Guy's Carpet Repairs and Installations. 24 years experience. No job too small. Residential and commercial. 653-6435. 18

Insulate your home and save 30% a year on your fuel bill by calling Rapid Insulation for free information and estimates. 239-6450. 25

Renovator, painter, home improvements, eavestroughing, cement work. 20 years experience. No job too small. Call Joe evenings 651-7796. 25

How's Your Husband?
Not too handy? Try mine for everything from a new rec room, kitchen, bathroom or any other area needing work. He does everything from designing to executing the work. Free consultations! Call Marsha or Joel Cohen of Repairs Unlimited, 223-9373. 25

WE INSTALL dead-locks, chain-locks, door-viewers, drapery-tracks. Guaranteed. North Bathurst Cycle & Hardware, 781-6333. 18

SERVICES

Home Improvements

S & A Painting
New company, well-experienced, reasonable, free estimates. Painting, wallpapering, decoration, woodwork. Call 429-3022. 25

Invitations

Bar Mitzvah, Bridal Invitations. Generous discounts for all your simchas, and **beautiful free gifts.** Complete selection of place cards, matches, bencher books, yarmulkes, business stationery, Hebrew script available. All Canadian paper, no customs duty and no waiting. **Barbara Mortfield,** 633-8230 or 638-5040. 25

CHOOSING INVITATIONS takes time. Plan early for '77 and see our wide selection of papers and styles in traditional to ultramodern. Kepahs, benchers, place cards, matches, hand embossers, stationery, caligraphy, and as a treasured gift, The Bar Mitzvah Scroll (tm), and for your guests, personalized ballpoint pens as a momento of your child's Simcha....I've now added a wide assortment of bath, kitchen and general items in clear & colored lucite and acrylic — up to 20% off. Jan's special — Cook Book Holder — $8.75. **SHIRLEY NELSON** — 223-9785, 223-2722. 18

You're Invited...
to see an exciting collection of wedding and Bar Mitzvah invitations and accessories. An exclusive American line has just arrived, including the most unique and modern styles in invitations, engraved matches, place cards, benchers and yarmulkes. Caligraphy available at moderate prices.
R.S.V.P.
Sharon Sloim
661-0821 25

Miscellaneous

Expresso Furniture
Stripping, refinishing, touch-up and repairs, pianos and antiques, our specialty. Residential and commercial estimates free. Days 270-5595, even. 457-3317. 25

Movers

Mike's movers and storage. Call us and compare our prices. Lic. and insured. 630-5222. 25

Music Lessons

Violin & Piano lessons by experienced teacher, all levels, available in your home. Isaac, 429-5066. 18

Painting/Paperhanging

Paperhanging & Painting experienced, efficient. Free estimates, work guaranteed. Call 661-2301; 781-1637. 25

Paperhanging and Painting, expert in all kinds of wall coverings, references. Call M. Friedman, 636-2263. 25

Chris the Painter — Excellent interior and exterior work. 782-3472, 782-6425. 25

Painting, paperhanging, plumbing — guaranteed work, 10 years' experience. 492-1747. 25

Paperhanging and painting. Residential, commercial, reasonable rates, experienced. Call 782-1955. 25

Painting & Paperhanging
A well-done job is my business. Your satisfaction guaranteed. References. Call John, 493-5411 after 6. 25

A-1 Japanese Painter-decorator. Residence and office. Call 763-1028. 11

A wallpaper specialist. Excellent work. Reasonable. Call Yossi, 481-6777. 25

Painting. Honest reliable painter, wallpaper hanger, ceramic tile, plastering. 484-1980, 763-3380. 18

ALL JEWISH MONUMENT SHOWROOM
Jewish-Owned & Operated

Daily 9—5 Sun. 10—2
Evenings By Appointment
787-0319 787-4195
SAM IZENBERG MONUMENTS
766 WOBURN AVE. at Bathurst

SERVICES

Plastering

Plastering, big & small jobs, reasonable rates. Thomas Plastering, Metro. License B-6969. Call 749-9514. 25

Plumbing

Gus Plumbing & Heating, new work, repairs and alterations. 536-1603. 25

Plumbing and Carpentry — Specialist in remodelling and painting. Call 226-0658. 25

Yoram the Plumber. All kinds of plumbing, repairs. Basement, washrooms. Free estimates, all work guaranteed. 661-3872. 25

Professional Services

Bridal Consultant
Arranging your wedding or a Bar Mitzvah? Call 787-5533 or 828-1974. See ad, page 13. 25

Tax returns, systems, budgeting, all phases of bookkeeping and accounting services. Call Murray Leib evenings, 225-4782. 11

Free movie with complete wedding coverage. 828-1974 or 787-5533. See display ad on page 13. 25

Tutoring

Hebrew Tutoring
Qualified responsible teacher for children and adults. Fast method for beginners. Efficient remedial work. Call Esther, 653-0271 or 481-9623. 11

Hebrew tutor, grades 1, 2, 3 & 4. Howard, 493-7390. 18

French tutoring available at all levels. 223-6401. 11

SHARE ACCOMMODATION

Ridelle & Marlee. Male, late 20's, has furnished apt. to share with male/female. 789-4706. 11

Young professional man is looking for either someone to get an apt. with or for someone who already has an apt. to share. Would be interested in the areas along Eglinton from Mt. Pleasant to Marlee. Age between 24-29. Call 447-4691 after 5 p.m. 25

Eglinton & Marlee. Female, 23, seeks roommate to share 2 bedroom apt. Call Barb or Donna, 636-1880, ext. 12. 18

OBITUARIES

Barski, Filip - Late of 2901 Jane St.
Branitsky, Jan - Late of 73 Tanjoe Cres.
Capp, Ida - On Feb. 2, late of 119 Bannockburn Ave.
Collins, Bessie - Late of Baycrest Centre
Cohen, Harold - Late of 535 Sheppard Ave. W.
Dekter, Sonia - Late of 5 Baintree St. E.
Fox, Samuel - Late of 3 Casino Court
Gelman, Alex - Late of Cheltenham Nursing Home
Ginsberg, Louie - Late of 423 Yonge St.
Gold, Tina - Late of 1 Four Winds Dr.
**Klein

"THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN BE SUBSTITUTED FOR SEEING ISRAEL FOR YOURSELF."

—Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel

"I don't believe that there is a better way to express your feelings than to actually go to Israel....There is something special about the Holy Land....Those who go, come back entirely different. They see something that no words can describe."

So spoke Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, at the beginning of this Solidarity Pilgrimage Year. Yet, what Rabin said is an echo of what every person has felt who has ever visited Israel. You know this.

If you don't you'll learn it at Pesach, when, sitting at the Seder in Israel, every symbol of this festival of freedom will take on richness that almost aches.

You'll know the feeling when you join the crowd and dance through the streets on Purim or Independence Day.

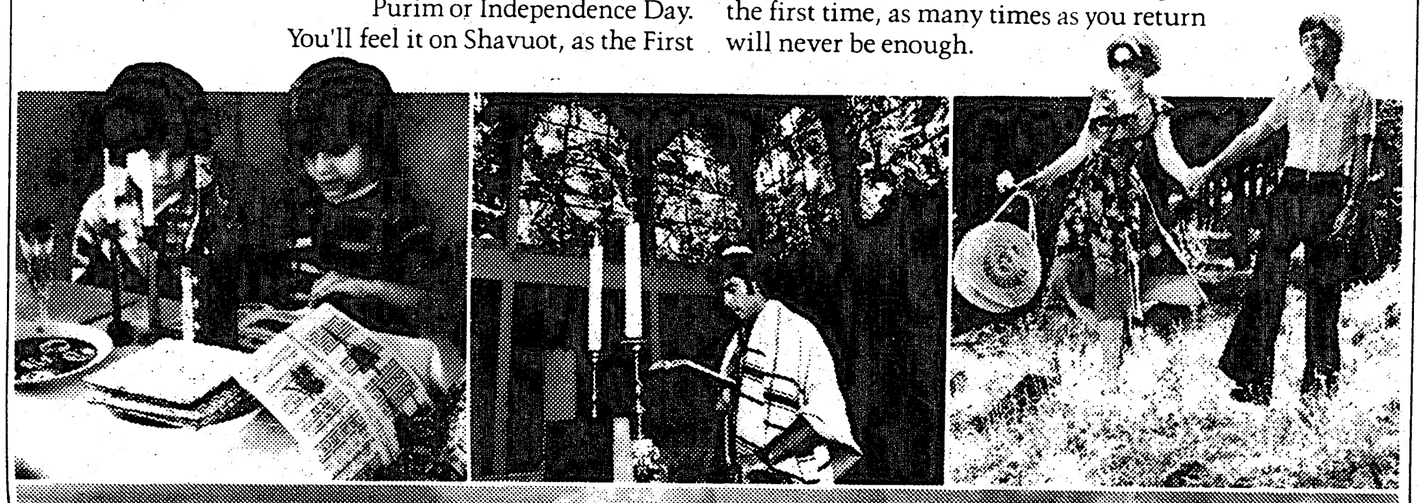
You'll feel it on Shavuot, as the First Fruits are paraded through the kibbutz with so much bursting pride. And at the Western Wall, where the ancient chanting through the night seems to make centuries melt away.

You'll know what "no words can describe" when you walk through the streets of Israel at Sukkot, and find yourself surrounded by beautiful Sukkot booths in every yard and on every balcony.

You'll feel it at Chanukah, at the candle lighting ceremony atop Mount Zion.

But you don't need a celebration to share these experiences. Because every day of Solidarity Year is a celebration of your partnership with Israel.

And once you go and feel these things for the first time, as many times as you return will never be enough.



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